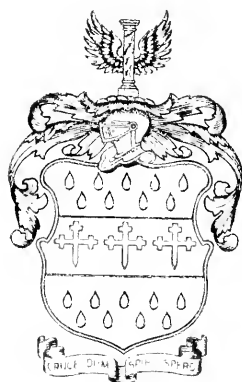




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MEMOIRS,
JOURNAL, AND CORRESPONDENCE
OF
THOMAS MOORE.

EDITED BY
THE RIGHT HON. LORD JOHN RUSSELL, M. P.

"Spirat adhuc amor."—HOR.

VOL. II.

NEW YORK:
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M.DCCC.LVII.

Who feared not leveret, black as soot⁴,
 Like roasted Afric, at the head set
 (And making tow'ards the duck at foot,
 The veteran duck; a sort of dead set);
 Whose nose could stand such ancient fish
 As that we at Devizes purvey—
 Than which I know no likelier dish⁵
 To turn one's stomach topsy-turvy.

Oh! dying of an indigestion,
 To him was *quite* out of the question⁶,
 Who could behold unmoved, unbother'd,
 Shrimps in sour anchovy smother'd⁷;
 Who, venturesome wight, no terror had
 Of tart old pies, or puddings *sad*;
 Who could for eatables mistake,
 Whate'er the cook had mess'd up blindly;
 And e'en, like famish'd Luttrell, take
 To infamous Scotch collops⁸ so kindly.

Sent off this to L.; and dined at the Phippses;
 company, Estcourts, Lockes, Fishers, &c. &c.
 Sung for them in the evening.

29th. A note early from Lord Lansdowne,
 to say that Capt. Basil Hall, who is at Bow-
 wood, wishes much to see me; and that if I
 cannot come over to-day to either luncheon
 or dinner, he will call upon me to-morrow.
 Answered that I would come to dinner to-day.
 Walked over at five. Went to Luttrell's room;
 and found he had written the following answer
 to my parody, with which he seemed pleased,
 particularly with the *serves animæ dimidium*
 and *Quo non arbiter Adriæ*:—

A fine feast is a farce and a fable,
 As often, dear Moore, we have found it;
 Prithce, what is the farce on a table
 To the Fair who sit sparkling around it?

I see not what you'd be to blame for
 Though your cook were no dab at her duty;
 In your cottage was all that we came for,
 Wit, poetry, friendship, and beauty!

And then, to increase our delight
 To a fullness all boundaries seorning,
 We were cheer'd with your lantern at night,
 And regaled with your rhymes the next morning.

H. L.

Company, only Capt. Basil Hall, Luttrell, and
 Nugent, and an *ad interim* tutor of Kerry's.
 Hall mentioned a good phrase of some Amer-
 ican, to whom Sir A. Ball had been very civil

⁴ Nec timuit præcipientem Africum.

⁵ Quo non arbiter Adriæ
 Major, tollere seu ponere vult freta.

⁶ Quem mortis timuit gradum,—

⁷ Qui fixis oculis monstra natantia.

⁸ *Infames scopulos*; or as it ought evidently to be read,
Collopos. N. B. Luttrell eat only of a dish of this kind at
 dinner.

at Malta, "most grateful for all the kindness
 shown to himself and his wife; and hoped
 some time or another to have an opportunity
 of *retaliating* upon Lady Ball." Luttrell
 mentioned some Irish member (Crosbie, I be-
 lieve) who in speaking of some one in the
 House, said, "Sir, if I have any partiality for
 the Hon. Gentleman, it is *against* him." Hall
 gave me, before I came away, a journal
 written by his sister, Lady De Laney, contain-
 ing an account of the death of her husband
 at Waterloo, and her attendance upon him
 there, they having been but three months
 married. Walked home; took the narrative
 to bed with me to read a page or two, but
 found it so deeply interesting, that I read till
 near two o'clock, and finished it; made my-
 self quite miserable, and went to sleep, I be-
 lieve, crying. Hall said he would call upon
 me to-morrow.

30th. Had but an hour or two of study
 before Hall came; asked him to dine with us;
 said he had thought of reaching Badminton
 (the Duke of Beaufort's) to dinner, but would
 stay. The Scotts called, and wished me to
 fix a day, this week, to dine with them; but
 as I still thought of going to Lord Bathurst's,
 begged them to defer it. Hall said he had
 written every word in his last book (*Account*
of Chili) seven times over.

31st. At work.

September 1st. Dined at Locke's, Bessy and
 I; the weather flamingly hot. Company, the
 Phippses, M——, Edmonston, and the Freder-
 ick Bouveries. Sung in the evening, to the
 accompaniment of M——'s creaking shoes,
 and chatter, which never stops. This parson
 an amazing nuisance in society, though said
 to be an excellent man at home; ought to
 stay there. Bessy quite indignant at his rude-
 ness during my singing; good girl for so
 being.

2nd, 3rd, &c. Nothing remarkable; hard at
 work. Sent Power two poems for Bishop to
 set for the Greek work. Lord Lansdowne
 called and arranged for our going together to
 the Book-Club dinner, on Wednesday next.

8th. Walked over to Bowood to dress, and
 went with Lord L. to the Book-Club dinner
 at Chippenham. About fourteen or sixteen
 people. Made to follow Lord L. out of the
 room, and sat next him. Mentioned Sir B.
 Roche saying energetically in the House, "Mr.

Speaker, I'll answer boldly in the affirmative, No." Joy (who was President) told us he was by at the memorable scene between Fox and Burke. Said that there were a number of people in the House affected to tears. In proposing new books after the dinner, a member from the bottom of the table said, "There is a book called 'Rock Detected,' which I should like to propose;" upon which I said immediately, "Mr. President, I second that motion." I added, however, that they need not go to the expense of buying a copy, as I had one quite at their service. Left between nine and ten. In talking of neatness of execution being the *sine quâ non* in epigrams, Lord L. mentioned one as rather happy in its structure. I forget the exact words, but it was something

(The hearer) "Perplexed
'Twixt the two to determine;
'Watch and pray,' says the text,
'Go to sleep,' says the sermon."

Wished me to dine with him on Friday, but have a half engagement to Scott.

9th and 10th. Reading and writing.

11th. Dined with the Scotts, who changed their day. Was in Devizes early, and drew on the Longmans for 100*l.* at three months. Company at Scott's; the Salmons, and Edmonston; rather agreeable. Wet, stormy night; meant to have walked all the way home, but on arriving at Devizes, found it too bad, and took a chaise.

12th. Walked over to Bowood to see the Lansdownes, who go to-morrow to the Isle of Wight. Told them of a long letter I had had from Fielding, who expects to be in England at Christmas. Lady L. said it was entirely Captain Hall's anxiety to see Bessy that made him persist in calling upon me on Monday.

13th. At work.

14th. Went to Bath with Bessy for commissions; took Tom and Russell; our dear Anastasia quite well. Home before seven. Had an invitation from the Arundells to go over there to-day, but sent an excuse.

15th. Bowles called. Asked him to return to dinner with us, which he did. Is going pell-mell into controversy again; Roscoe has exposed a carelessness of his with regard to one of Pope's letters, which he is going to

write a pamphlet to explain. Mentioned an acquaintance of his, of the name of Lambert, who took a fancy to go to Egypt. When he came back, some one said to him, "Well, Lambert, what account of the Pyramids?" "The Pyramids! what are they? I never heard of them!" Was called, ever after, Pyramid Lambert. Fixed for us to come to him next Monday, to his Moravian Concert. Have received a pretty seal ring (a Lough Neagh pebble) from Ireland; the device an Irish harp, with my own words, "Dear harp of my country," round it.

16th to 19th. Working away at Sheridan. Sent Power two things for the Greek work, "Lonely Man of Athos," and "When thou art nigh;" the latter my own music. A flourishing speech of Shiel about me in the Irish papers. Says I am "The first poet of the day," and "join the beauty of the bird of paradise's plumes to the strength of the eagle's wing."

20th. Had a chaise to go over to Bremhill. Stopped at Bowood on my way to get a volume of Burke's works. Found Bowles and his party fiddling away most industriously; besides the Moravians, who were six in number, there was Mr. Humphreys of Chippenham, and Mr. Fenwick, a parson. Had a card of the concert printed, in which I was set down both as composer and singer. The whole day highly amusing. Set to music again after dinner. Slept there.

21st. Bowles showed me after breakfast the names in the "Tales of the Genii," that were transpositions of the author's (Ridley's) friends. Ellor for Rolle, and Phesor Geneps for Joseph Spence. Lowth, another great friend of Spence's, who has inscribed to him his fine poem, "The choice of Hercules," in his work. Bowles took Bessy in the carriage as far as Buckhill, where she meant to pass the day; I walked about alone. Went to take a look at a pretty cottage there which I should like to have; then got the key of the pleasure grounds at Bowood, and sauntered about them in the sunshine, writing a few sentences of Sheridan till three o'clock, when I joined Bessy at dinner with Mrs. Hughes. The little ones came there to us in the evening, and all walked home together. Find that there is some pamphlet published (and mentioned in "John Bull,") which accuses me of having borrowed

my translation of Anacreon from another translation.

22d to 30th. Rooting among Sheridan's papers, and scribbling. A letter from Corry, mentioning the accusation of plagiarism against me in my Anacreon. The translation which I am accused of plundering is by Ogle, and it is odd enough if there should be (as Corry seems to intimate) any coincidences between us, as this is the first time I ever *heard of* of such a translation.

Oct. 1st. Saw Bessy and Tom in the evening at Buckhill, where she went to sleep, for the purpose of being able to see the cottage at Calne to-morrow. Called on Mrs. P. on my way back.

2nd. Set off to walk to Buckhill at half past ten. Arrived at the cottage at Calne, where I found Bessy and Hughes, at a quarter to twelve; good walking. The cottage very pretty, but the pleasure grounds too extensive for our means, and every symptom of damp and smoking about the house. Dined at Hughes's, having walked to Bowood before dinner to look over some books. The last day I was there I gave half a sovereign to the wrong housemaid, and was therefore obliged to correct the erratum to-day, by giving ditto to the right one. Walked home with Bessy (for whom it was far too much) in the evening. Sent out some invitations for a dinner on Tuesday next.

3rd. Working at songs for Power.

4th. Sent off two songs to Power, "When on the lip the sigh delays," and "Here take my heart;" the latter with music of my own to it. The Phippses in the evening to tea and supper.

12th. Received a letter from Corry to say he had arrived at Bristol on his way to me, and hoped to be with us to-day. Rather puzzled about our engagement to Locke and the ball, but wrote to Locke to say that if Corry came in time, we would take him with us. He arrived just as we were going, and most good humouredly consented to go with us. Dinner more agreeable than usual; having another Irishman to back me I made play, and we had a good deal of laughing. Danced a quadrille at the ball with a little *blonde*, who quite justified the name Mr. Barry Cornwall the poet gives to her sex in general, "White creatures!" Bessy danced all night and en-

joyed herself exceedingly. Home at two. Corry and I had our beakers and to bed.

13th. Corry gave us amusing accounts of my dear Mother's anxiety about me, and his making her laugh through her tears. Walked him over to Bowood; sorry the Lansdownes are not at home to receive him. In looking at the cascade, he mentioned what Plunkett said when some one praising his waterfall, exclaimed, "Why it's quite a cataract." "Oh, that's all my eye," said Plunkett. A delicious day. In the evening showed him Sheridan's MSS. of the "School for Scandal," which, being an enthusiast in the drama, he was delighted with.

14th. Off to Bath with Corry at half-past ten, thinking it as well to take advantage of the return of his chaise to bring home Anastasia, who is wanted for the celebration of Tom's birth-day. Told me that when Grattan was once asked his opinion about Sackville Hamilton (a well known man of office in Ireland), he answered, "Oh, red tape and sealing wax." Corry much pleased with my Anastasia's countenance, but sees, what I do myself, the loving and loveable nature of the dear child; and feels how ticklish will be the steerage of such a creature, when her affections are brought more strongly out. God protect her, and keep her innocent! Corry off in the mail at half-past three for Birmingham, and I home with Statia. Borrowed a volume of Wycherly from Upham.

15th and 16th. Finished the part relative to the School for Scandal.

17th. Worked for Power. Looked over the "Chants Populaires de la Grèce," by Fourier, to find a subject for a song.

18th. Sent off to Power two songs, "There are two loves," and "Olympus late to Ossa said;" the latter taken from one of the songs of the Klepthes in Fauriel. Wrote to Rogers with respect to the injunction he laid on me not to apply to Byron's family on the subject of materials for his life till he gave me leave; said I thought if they had any sense or feeling, they would rather have a hand upon whose delicacy they could rely, to gather decently together the fragments of Byron's memory, than have them scattered about for every scribbler to make his own little separate heap or tumulus of. Mentioned the misrepresentations in Medwin's book of my first acquaintance with Byron, but said, "I am glad they were no worse, as I ex-

pected mischief, and I am sure there *will* be some in other quarters. To bring up a dead man thus to run a muck among the living is a formidable thing. In old times, superstitious thieves used to employ a dead man's hand in committing robberies, and they called it *la main de gloire*. I rather think the Captain of Dragoons (Medwin) is making use of a 'hand of glory' for not much better purposes."

19th. Walked over to Bowood. Not at home. Brought a book away with me. Note from Lord L. to ask me to dine there on Saturday.

20th. Working.

21st. Celebration of Tom's birth-day, kept to-day instead of the 24th, in order that "Stattia" may return to school; plenty of children and noise. The Falkners and Phipps supped with us.

22nd. Walked with Bessy and Anastatia to Buckhill, where Bessy slept preparatory to being taken by Bowles to Bath to-morrow. Met Lord L. on my return.

23rd. Dined at Bowood, company, Grosetts and Clutterbucks; Mrs. Clutterbuck looking very pretty. Clutterbuck's story of the old lady (his aunt) excellent. Being very nervous she told Sir W. Farquhar she thought Bath would do her good. "It's very odd," says Sir W., "but that's the very thing I was going to recommend to you. I will write the particulars of your case to a very clever man there, in whose hands you will be well taken care of." The lady furnished with the letter, sets off, and on arriving at Newbury, feeling as usual very nervous, she said to her confidant, "Long as Sir Walter has attended me, he has never explained to me what ails me. I have a great mind to open his letter and see what he has stated of my case to the Bath physician." In vain her friend represented to her what a breach of confidence this would be. She opened the letter, and read, "Dear Davis, keep the old lady three weeks, and send her back again." Slept there.

24th. A good deal of talk at breakfast about the falsehoods and misrepresentations in Medwin's book about Byron. Told them the whole particulars of my first acquaintance with Byron, and the misstatement about the "leadless bullet" that led to it. Lord L. owned he himself had been always under the impression that the story was true, and that the pistols in my

meeting with Jeffrey were really *not* loaded. A proof what a fast hold the world takes of anything that disparages. He mentioned that the present Lords Hertford and Mansfield, when at the University, were mischievously set to fight in a room, by their seconds, and made to fire twice; the seconds not having loaded either pistol, and even having contrived a hole in the wainscot to make them think, after the first fire, that it was where the bullet went through. Walked to Buckhill to see Bessy who slept there last night. Went with her some part of her way home, and then returned to Bowood. Dressed and set off with Lord L. to dinner at Bowles's. Company, Bingham, Linley, Lord L., Phipps, and myself. Bowles mentioned that at some celebration at Reading school, when the patrons or governors of it (beer and brandy merchants) were to be welcomed with a Latin address, the boy appointed to the task thus bespoke them, "*Salvete, hospites celebeerini*;" and then turning to the others, "*Salvete, hospites celebrandi*." A good deal of singing in the evening; Linley, Bingham, and I sung several of Calcott's glees, which went off particularly well; Bowles in raptures. Slept there (instead of returning with Lord L.) in order to look over the sheets of Bowles's new pamphlet to Roscoe, in the morning.

25th. At work for three hours after breakfast trying to put Bowles's slipshod reasonings into some sort of order; but the task desperate. Left him between one and two. Called at Lord L.'s in the way, who asked me to dine on Friday next. Read the "Rehearsal" (which I borrowed from Bowles) to Bessy in the evening.

26th. Received Medwin's book and several others from town. Read Medwin through. A trumpery book, but on the whole gives an amiable impression of Lord B.; full of gross errors.

29th. Walked to Bowood to dinner. Company, Lord and Lady Pembroke, Colonel Young, my old friend Sir Stamford Raffles, and the Bowleses. Lord L. mentioned a ship having been once cast away at Petersburg, laden with the newest fashions from France, and all the fish that were caught for several days were dressed out in the different dresses, veils, caps, &c. &c. Raffles gave us an account of his misfortune (by the burning of the ship in

which he left Bencoolen), very interestingly. Sung in the evening with Lady Pembroke, who also gave us some very pretty Russian songs; did not seem to care much about my singing, except in my duets with her, which went very well; chiefly Asioli. Slept there.

30th. Wrote a verse or two of a song for Power, "The dying Warrior to his Sword." Walked home after breakfast, Lady Lansdowne having entreated me to stay over to-morrow, and to get Bessy to come over too. Lunched at home, and walked with Bessy; then back to Bowood to dinner. Sir S. Raffles gone. Had showed me in the morning, maps of his new settlement at Singapore. The India Company's servants much annoyed at his introduction of the principles of free trade so close to them. Lord L. mentioned that Cottu (the judge who wrote about England), after praising to him Scarlett and the other lawyers of the Northern Circuit, said *Mais il faut avouer que leur cuisine est fade et bornée*; there was, it appeared to him, the same old goose at dinner everywhere he went. In talking of English architects, Lord P. said he would rank Chambers the highest of any; Lord L. said that Cockerell is of the same opinion. The Americans (I mentioned) call a cargo of fashionable goods, trinkets, &c. &c. being "laden with notions," and on being hailed by our ships, a fellow (without an idea, perhaps, in his head) will answer through a speaking trumpet, that he is "laden with notions." Having some symptoms of a cold during my singing with Lady P. in the evening, Lady L. recommended me some sal-volatile in water; and her footman gave me a bottle of the stuff on my way to bed. Foolishly thinking it already mixed, I drank off a great dose of the pure sal-volatile, and was nearly suffocated; did not sleep all night with the uneasiness in my throat.

31st. Dreadfully wet to-day. Meant to have walked home to luncheon, but could not. Lord L. having recommended me to read Fielding's "Journey into the next World," did so, and was highly amused; few things so good as the first half of it. Went to chapel, and did not get out all day. In the evening, on my alluding to the story (told originally, I believe, of George II.) of George III. having once said upon being saved from falling, "Never touch a King," Lord Pembroke re-

marked, "No, no; he did not say that, I was with him at the time. Being very clumsy in his movements, in stepping over something he fell right on his nose, and Goldsworthy ran to help him up; upon which he said, rather testily, 'Don't you think I can get up myself?' and that was all." Could not sing a note this evening, on account of my throat; but Lady P. gave us again her pretty Russian airs, and a beautiful thing by Carafa, *O Cara Memoria*, which I copied out. Slept there.

Nov. 1st. Walked home before breakfast. Went to Lord L. to ask him to take the copy of Sheridan's Westminster Hall Speech to town for me; said, at the same time, that I had had half a mind to offer myself to him as a parcel. In answer, said that he had, by mere accident, as many live parcels already as his carriage could hold, but that if any occasion should take me up to town within the next ten days, he could easily bring me back.

2nd. Sent the Speech over to Bowood.

3rd. Sent to Power "The Dying Warrior to his Sword," and an air I have written to "When on the Lip the Sigh delays." A couple of nice pine-apples from Bowood.

4th, 5th. At work at the "Duenna."

6th. Dined at the Phippses to meet Captain Amyot.

7th, 8th. A parcel from town, containing, among other things, "Murray's Notes on Captain Medwin," in form of a pamphlet, sent by himself. The newspapers have all been giving extracts from the new number of "Irish Melodies," and praising them.

9th. Went to the Devizes ball; the Phippses took us. Walked about a good deal with Mrs. Fisher, and dined with Selina Locke. Bessy not looking at all well, but danced away the whole night, and suffered for it in violent cramps on her return home.

10th to 12th. At work. The "Courier" I see has praised the "Melodies" very warmly.

15th, 16th. Sent Power words to a ballet tune, "Tell her, oh, tell her!" Have been endeavouring, but without success, to put words to Carafa's air.

17th. Some anonymous person has sent me a framed drawing of our cottage ("Anacreon Cottage," as the writer calls it), with a very flattering letter; a woman's hand-writing. We had observed a lady and a gentleman in a gig at the gate some weeks since sketching the

house, and thought it must be for some magazine. Walked to Bowood to dinner; company, the A'Courts, Littleton (Lord Littleton's brother), Miss Napier, and Miss Talbot. Littleton more agreeable than he used to be when a young man; less of a rattle. Music in the evening. Mrs. A'Court sung to the Spanish guitar very prettily, and with me some of Asiol's duets. Lord L. told of Garat (I think) accompanying Chauvelin, when he came on his mission; their bringing a large Amiens pie to eat on the road, which was fastened on the top of the chaise. Garat anxious to see the country, got out and sat with the pie, and at the end of his journey said very innocently, that nothing could be more unjust than giving the English a character of gravity or *tristesse*, as he had seen nothing but *éclats de rire* all the way along. Slept there.

18th. Looked through the "Edinburgh Review" for articles on Commerce with France and the Sinking Fund. Talked with Lord L. upon Mr. Fox's opposition to the commercial treaty in 1786; the very erroneous principles broached both by him and Burke on that occasion, &c. Wanted me very much to stay over to-day; but, as I must come again on Sunday, to meet the Jerseys, thought it better to return home. The Falkeners to dinner with us. Worked in the evening.

19th. Should have mentioned that I wrote to Doyle within these few days, begging him to communicate to Lady Byron and Mrs. Leigh, my intention to write a Life of Lord Byron; said it was always his own wish that I should, if I survived him, write something about him, and that I thought it must be equally now the wish of his own family that a hand, upon whose delicacy they could rely, should undertake the task, rather than have his memory at the mercy of scribblers, who dishonour alike the living and the dead.

20th. Received a note from Lady L. reminding me of to-morrow, and sending me the Russian airs that Lady Pembroke promised to copy out for me.

21st. Bessy by no means well; the same pains in her face and jaws that she had last winter. Walked over to Bowood; company, the Jerseys, Lord Carnarvon and his daughter, Charles Sheridan, and Lord and Lady James Stuart. Desired both by Lady Lansdowne and Lord Jersey to sit next Lady Jer-

sey at dinner. In reading an extract from Dallas's book about Lord Byron before dinner, it occurred to me that by the "newly made friend," he mentions who turned Lord B. out of the path of courtiership into which Dallas thinks he was so laudably entering at one time, he must have meant *me*, and so Lord Jersey thought. But Lord L., at dinner, said it was quite as likely to be Lady Jersey; and so, upon reconsideration, I have no doubt it is. A good deal of laughing with her about this. Sung in the evening. Slept there.

22nd. Walked home after breakfast to see how Bessy was. Some talk with Lord L. before I came away on a point that has occupied my mind a good deal, namely, the project I have meditated of writing a life of Lord Byron. Though the Longmans look earnestly and anxiously to it as the great source of my means of repaying them their money; and though it would be the shortest and easiest way I could effect that object; yet the subject begins to be so tarnished and so clogged with difficulties, that my *own* impression is that I *ought* not to undertake it. Mentioned this idea to Lord Lansdowne who quite agrees with me. Thinks that as to entering into the details of Lord Byron's life now, it is quite out of the question, and that all I could with any satisfaction to myself undertake, would be a critical examination of his works and genius, which after all, as I remarked, the public would not much thank me for. It is my intention, however, to leave both the Longmans and the public under the impression that I *do* mean to write the life. Found Bessy not much better. Got wet through in returning to Bowood. Received a letter from Elliston, asking me whether the G in Gheber was to be pronounced hard or soft, as he is bringing out a piece from "Lalla Rookh," and wishes to know. Lady Jersey this morning mentioned that Lord — told her Croker was the author of "Rock Detected." Poor Croker's name is made as free with as the devil's is with the lawyers; everything is laid to him. Lord —, she says, owned, at the same time, that it was very dull, and this it certainly would *not* be, if written by Croker. An addition to the party to-day of Ponsonby and Lady Barbara, and the Puseys (Lord Carnarvon's daughter and son-in-law). Again ordered to sit next Lady Jersey. A dispute in the evening upon a passage in Cobbett's

"Cottage Economy;" "It was, pigs of a different description that were," &c.; whether grammar or not. Lords Jersey and Lansdowne against, and Lord Carnarvon and I for; *i. e.* acknowledging it was awkward, but still grammar. As Lord C. said, only change it into "it was a different description of pigs," &c. and you will see that the fault is in the collocation of the words, not in the grammar." Sung again. Slept there. A tremendous storm in the night that actually shook Bowood. Trembled for the thatch of my little cottage. Charles Sheridan having read his father's speech, now agrees with me, that it would not be so desirable to have it all published.

23rd. Lady Lansdowne said in coming down to breakfast, "It is an ill wind, &c.; you cannot go home to-day." On my expressing my anxiety about Mrs. Moore, offered to send the carriage with me to see her, and then come back again. Could not, however, stay. On my mentioning what Sheridan said to Charles, when he was a boy, "Never do to-day what you can possibly put off till to-morrow," found that it was not Sheridan but the old Lord Holland, who said it to Charles Fox, adding another maxim, "Nor ever do yourself what you can get any one else to do for you." Talked of Southey: the little reliance that is to be placed upon him as an historian; his base persecution of the memory of Sir J. Moore. Ponsonby mentioned a gross misrepresentation of his with respect to the request which he says Romana made to Moore to advance; said also, that the Duke of Wellington had spoken most warmly and liberally to Col. Napier (who is writing an account of the Peninsular War) on the subject of those calumnies against Moore. Lord Lansdowne mentioned at breakfast that Voltaire in some historical work (?), had described the French as, immediately upon their taking possession of Munich, after a severe siege, collecting all the pretty girls of the town and dancing all night. The authors of the "Universal History," upon finding this anecdote, wrote to Voltaire to request he would inform them of his authority for it. Upon which Voltaire wrote back to say that he really forgot where he had met with it, but that it might be depended on, as *Les Français dansent toujours*. Talked of Jeremy Bentham; calls his walk after dinner his "paulo-post prandial vibration."

Mills's article on Government, in the Supplement to the "Encyclopædia Britannica." How quizzible this whole school is! Their method of analysis might be transferred so easily to some ludicrous question, and travestied, &c. &c. Came away before luncheon, and got pretty dry home.

24th and 25th. At work.

26th. Bowles called. Walked over to Bowood to look at Fox's James II., and borrow a volume of the "Edinburgh Review;" found the Ponsonbys; lunched. Lord L. walked part of the way home with me. A good deal of conversation about politics. Asked us to dine to meet the Starkeys next Friday.

27th to 29th. At work. Wrote two things for Power, "Our home is on the sea, boy," and, "Bring the bright garlands hither;" the latter to a pretty Russian air Lady Pembroke gave me.

30th. Writing away.

Dec. 3rd. Dined at Bowood; the Phippses took us; company, the Starkeys and Holttons. The day rather different from Bowood days in general. Whatever it may be in politics, at a dinner, *men*, not *measures*, are to be considered.

4th. A wretched day: the Phippses dined with us. See (by extracts in the "Chronicle") that there is an article in the New "Edinburgh" on "Captain Rock:" evidently by Sydney Smith. Sent an apology to Bowles to whom I promised to go to-day; but the *nebulae malusque Jupiter* prevent it.

12th. Walked over to Bowood; company there at present, Misses Fox and Vernon, and Lord Seymour. Expect Lady Harrowby and the Ebringtons on Wednesday. Sorry to miss them, as I like the latter exceedingly. In talking of the French academy *éloges*, Lord L. mentioned one by the Duc de Levi, which he had heard. The defunct having written a play, which the Duke considered food for the royalist cause, he said it was "pity that the Théâtre Français had not been able to contain as many people at once as the Coliseum, for if it had *la contre-révolution aurait été faite* by this play."

13th. Set off in the York House coach for town. Lunched at Newbury. On my arrival in town did not dine, having to sup with Power. Called at Lady Donegal's; the house all silent and dark, supposed her out of town.

Found Power full of kindness and satisfaction with me.

14th. Called at Rogers's; not in town. Wrote a letter to Power, explaining what I wished him to do for me in the financial way. Met Charles Moore, who told me Lady D. was not only in town, but that he was to dine there to-day to go to see the "Freischütz;" just the thing I wished; wrote to her to invite myself. Called on the Hollands; Lady H. not very well. Found Woolriche with her; asked me to dine to-morrow, but engaged to the Longmans. Dined with Lady D., and went in the evening with Miss Goldfrey, Barbara, and C. Moore to the Duke of York's box, at Drury Lane. Much struck with the "Freischütz." Thought the music sounds familiar, and full of passages to which one is inclined to take off one's hat as to old acquaintances.

15th. Called upon Charles Sheridan; has not yet given the speech to the Bishop of Rochester. Having written a song before I came up upon Pendeli (the modern Pentelicus) in which I made the second syllable short, every verse ending with it, *e. g.* "The marble caves of Pendeli;" but having some misgivings that the syllable was long, asked C. Sheridan. Could not tell me with certainty, but believed it was long. Called upon Hobhouse. Much talk with him about the various Byronianism since we last met. It was Sir F. Burdett advised him to withdraw his pamphlet in answer to Medwin, which he had printed and announced. Showed me some proofs of old Dallas's manœuvring from Lord Byron's letters. Told him (what I feel), that all that has happened since the destruction of the Memoirs convinces me that he was right in advising their total suppression, as, if the remainder were published, much more mischief would be imagined to have existed in the suppressed part than there is even now. Begged of him to give me some time or other under his hand, for my own satisfaction, the assurance which had such weight with me in giving up the Memoirs, that Byron had expressed to him, when they last met, his regret at having put them out of his own power, and that it was only delicacy towards me that prevented him from recalling them; said that I might depend upon it that he would. Asked him about Pendeli, which is long, as I feared, and

my song, accordingly, spifficated. Called upon Woolriche. Saw the Duke of Bedford, who was all amiability, and very amusing; asked me to come to Woburn this Christmas; invited me also to dine to-day, and go to the play; but engaged. Walked with Woolriche, who pressed me to go to Woburn. There is to be a ballet got up, for young Lady Louisa, who dances, he says, beautifully. Called at Power's, who accedes most readily to my drawing upon him for six and eight months, but expressed regret that I should lose so much by discount. Sorry to find that the two works I am about now for him, will barely complete my annual tasks. Sad prospects before me; deep in arrears on all sides. Dined at Longmans'; had old Taylor of the "Sun" to meet me. Professed to tell me a great deal about Sheridan, but nothing in it, except boring, deadly boring; most of the company asleep. Brought me, however, a letter or two of S.'s, which may be of use; showed me also a curious original letter from Churchill to his bookseller, asking most anxiously for a guinea, for which he said he was "in pawn." Went to the Hollands; Brougham, Mackintosh, and Lord Sefton. Some talk with Mackintosh; said he believed Tooke had assisted Paine in his answer to Burke. Mentioned, as like Tooke's manner, the passage about a king having a million a-year; his only duty being to receive the salary. I must see this passage, in which he objected to the word "nominal," as encumbering the point: asked him about Stone. Stone had got him (Mackintosh) made a French citizen at the time when he wrote the letter I have to Sheridan, taking merit to himself for preventing the same honour from being inflicted on him and Mr. Fox. Mentioned George Ellis's fright on account of the Rolliad, when taken to dine with Pitt, the quotation of the latter, &c. &c. Thinks Richardson's the least good of the Rolliad papers.

16th. Breakfasted with Charles Sheridan. Looked over his translations from Fauriel's Greek songs, which he wishes to publish. Offered to speak to the Longmans about them. Called at the Duke of Bedford's for Woolriche; shown in by a stupid servant to the Duke and Duchess, who were in close conference for the purchase of trinkets; the Duke very kind. Walked with Woolriche; called on Shee, thence to the Donegals. Dressed at

six, and drove to the Storys, to take my chance of a dinner with them. Found them at tea, and did not like to own my intention, but said I was engaged to the Hollands. Dined at the Athenæum, my first appearance there. Went to Covent Garden, where I joined Lincoln Stanhope, and saw part of the "Freischütz" and "Clari;" cried at the latter as much as I used in Paris. Miss Tree, the only woman on the stage I would trust with a tender character.

19th. Breakfasted with Rogers. Conversation with respect to my undertaking "Byron's Life." Does not see that what has happened should alter my intention: thinks whatever of tarnish the subject may have lately received, will have passed away before I come to it, and that the falsehoods and nonsense which have been heaped upon his memory should rather make me consider the duty to do justice to it the greater. Dined at Lord Holland's: company, Sir J. Mackintosh, Dr. Holland, and Arguelles. The latter told Lord H. he remembered having met me eighteen years ago at Lady Heathcote's, when he came over as one of the deputies, and that I was less altered since then than any one he had met: I recollect well the evening he alludes to. He and Matarosa (now Torreno) were standing at the pianoforte while I was singing "Come tell me, says Rosa;" and on the latter asking Lady Heathcote what was the subject of my song, she, with great quickness, replied, that "it was in honour of the Spanish Deputies," in consequence of which, whenever I came to Rosa, Matarosa bowed. Some talk with Lord Holland in the evening about Sheridan. Brougham and Lord Sefton came in. Went from thence to Mr. Story's, sung and supped. Before dinner to-day called upon Strangford, and found him in conference with Prince Esterhazy.

20th. Breakfasted with Rogers. Showed me some prose essays he has written to intermix with the verses of his "Italy." One "On Assassination," of which Mackintosh (to whom he sent it) wrote back, that "Hume could not improve the thoughts, nor Addison the language." Feel it would do one good to study such writing, if not as a model, yet as a chaster and simplifier of style, it being the very reverse of ambition or ornament. Objected to the phrase, "as if all hell had broke loose,"

and "nations worrying each other like curs." Talking of Fox's views in 1786, calling the French "natural enemies," &c., he said, "Fox's tone altered much as he got older and wiser, and that on his return from France he was even thought to lean too much the other way." Went to the Longmans on my money business. Drew upon Power for 400*l.* at six and eight months, a hundred of which went to replace what I drew upon the Longmans for three months since, and eighty to Power for a similar purpose. Dined at Denman's, the party a most *Reginal* one; himself, Brougham, and Williams, with old Charles Butler to *dilute*. Very agreeable; talked of the Regency Question. The able article on the subject in the "Edinburgh Review" was written, Brougham says, by Allen. Brougham seemed to lay great stress upon the marriage with Mrs. Fitzherbert, and the forfeiture of the crown thereby; the nullity of the marriage having nothing to do with the forfeiture. Mentioned a parallel case in law, where a man in consigning an estate might do what would forfeit his own claim to it, though it was null in the law and could not confer any title to it on another. On Charles Butler saying he wondered this was not thought of during the Queen's trial, Brougham said that it *was* thought of; the only witness, however, to the marriage (I forget his name) was dead. Sung for the women in the evening; Brougham and Williams having gone off to a consultation. Agreed to go with Denman to-morrow to the trial of Miss Foote against Hayne.

21st. Up very early, and to breakfast with Denman at half-past eight. Mentioned Fox's famous reply to Grant on the Convention Bill. His side speeches to his friends, while working himself up to it; to Tierney and some one else, who were whispering behind, "Will you be quiet? it is no such easy speech to answer;" and of Michael A. Taylor who was boring him with suggestions, he said aside to another, "Doesn't the — think I have enough to do?" Staid in court till two, and was then obliged to attend an appointment with Bishop to correct some of our songs for the Greek work. Played me some things out of Weber's "Eury-anthe;" a beautiful cavatina and a yager song, not so simple or popular as that in the "Freischütz." Had a letter from Croker yesterday, asking me to dine with him on the

28th, and to fix Lord Strangford and Bushe for the same day. Called and left word with Rogers that I should dine with him to-day. Took my place on Thursday morning. Dined *tête-à-tête* with Rogers, and went to the play together to Lady Spencer's box: "As you like it," Miss Tree the Rosalind.

22nd. All day performing commissions. Called at the Longmans, and from thence went with Rees to the India House to try and see Dr. Wilkie, for the purpose of making inquiries about Halled, Sheridan's early correspondent, who, it appears, is alive. This may make some difference to me in the Life, as I doubt whether I can venture to give his letters, and they are among the most lively ingredients of the work; could not see Dr. Wilkie. After writing several notes, dined between seven and eight at Richardson's. Thence home to pack.

23rd. Off in the coach at quarter past six. Had for one of my companions a clergyman, brother of the Shearer who wrote "Recollections in the Peninsula," &c. &c. An odd and amusing person; quoted a neat remark of Lardner's on predestination, "if we were judged before we were born, then certainly we were never born to be judged." Found all pretty well at home, and my dearest Anastasia among the rest for her holidays. Shearer said the Longmans had told his brother that I had the most generous contempt for money of any man they ever met.

24th. Surprised by an invitation to dinner from the Starkeys, they having from some unintelligible cause separated themselves from us for a long time. The return just as unintelligible as the breaking off. Upon consideration, however, resolved (as the most sensible and good-humoured plan) to accept the invitation.

25th. Eat my plum pudding at home. Dined at two on account of the servants, who were indulged with dinner for their friends (about a dozen of them) and a large party in the evening. Very jolly and uproarious till twelve o'clock.

28th. Received the account of my poor friend Richard Power's death.

29th. Company at Bowood, Lord Auckland and the Misses Eden, Sir John Newport, Macdonald, Mr. Baring Wall, and Hallam. Mentioned Gilbert Wakefield's taking Pope's "Gently spread thy purple pinions" as serious, and saying that it was not in Mr. Pope's hap-

piest style. Sung in the evening. In talking of my own compositions, mentioned the tendency I had sometimes to run into consecutive fifths, and adding, some time after, that Bishop was the person who now revised my music, Lord Auckland said, "Other Bishops take care of the fifths, but he looks after the fifths." A good story of a man brimful of ill-temper, coming out of a room where he had lost all his money at play, and seeing a person (a perfect stranger to him) tying his shoe at the top of the stairs; "D—n you (says he), you're always tying your shoe," and kicked him down stairs. Slept there.

30th. After breakfast walked home to see Bessy, and returned to Bowood to dinner. In talking at dinner of Lord Chatham's famous figure of the Saône and the Rhone, Lord L. and I maintained, against Hallam, that Fox and Lord Mansfield were the persons meant, and rather thought we had Lord Holland's authority for it. Hallam, however, insisted, upon the authority of Lord Orford's Correspondence, that it was the Duke of Newcastle and Fox. On referring to Lord Orford, found Hallam was right, and borne out by Lord Holland's note; though in the text Lord O. mentions four different persons (among whom was Lord Mansfield) to whom conjecture applied the passage. Had received to-day a modern Greek song upon Lord Byron's death (with the music), *Ὠδὴ πρὸς τὸν Λορδ Βυρον*. Hallam and I made out the words between us, but they are nothing remarkable. Slept there.

1825.

January 1st. Received a note from Lady L. asking me to come and meet Sir James Mackintosh on Monday, and stay over Tuesday, saying also she hoped to persuade Bessy to come with the children to celebrate Twelfth-night; answered I should come, but could not stay over Tuesday.

2nd. Have written, for Power, words to a Spanish air composed by Mrs Villamil, and to a German hunting song.

3rd. Walked over to Bowood: company, Mackintosh and his daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Smith and Lewson Smith. Some good stories of old Lady Townsend after dinner. "Lord Anson round the world but never in it." A good deal of conversation about Burke

in the evening. Mentioned his Address to the British Colonists in North America, "Armed as you are, we embrace you as our friends and as our brothers, by the best and dearest ties of relation." The tone of the other parts, however, is, I find, moderate enough. Burke was of opinion that Hume, if he had been alive, would have taken the side of the French Revolution. Dugald Stewart thinks the same. The grand part of Burke's life was between 1772 and the end of the American war; afterwards presumed upon his fame and let his imagination run away with him. Lord Charlemont said that Burke was a Whig upon Tory principles. Fox said it was lucky that Burke and Wyndham took the side against the French Revolution, as they would have got hanged on the other. Wyndham's speech on Curwen's motion for Reform an ingenious defence of parliamentary corruption, like the pleading of a sophist. Burke gave the substance of the India Bill, and Pigot drew it up. Slept there.

4th. After breakfast talked of Lord John's last book. Lord L. approves highly of his defence of the Septennial Act: thinks it saved the country. A question, however, whether they had any right to extend it beyond the parliament then sitting, and whether they should not merely have recommended the principle for discussion to their successors. Mackintosh thinks that if Anne and Louis XIV. had lived two or three years longer, the Pretender would have been restored. Looked over, with M., Bishop Berkeley's *Querist*, in which there are remarkable instances of acuteness on subjects of political economy; also views with respect to Ireland and the Catholics, most liberal, considering the times in which he lived; all expressed clearly and ably. How much more truly patriotic than Swift, who put the great majority of the people wholly out of his account! Read over Burke, and made some extracts. After luncheon went with Lady Lansdowne and the two others to drive. Dressed at Phipps's, where Bessy and I dined, to go to the ball: company, Mrs. Houlton and her two daughters, and the Ashes. The ball very full and a number of pretty women; danced with Selma Locke. Home between two and three.

5th. But ill fit for working after my late hours. Am labouring away at Sheridan.

6th. The Lansdownes' carriage came for us, and Bessy, Anastasia, Tom, and I set off in it. Company at dinner, the Mackintoshes and Smiths, the Bowleses, and Mr. and Mrs. Hertford. Sung in the evening and played with the children; Anastasia drew Queen. Home between eleven and twelve. Found that the Starkeys had sent in alarm for Bessy, on account of Julia's illness. She insisted on going across the valley, and as soon as I could get on my boots I followed her. Found all in bed and returned.

7th to 9th. At work.

10th. Walked over to Bowood. Found Mackintosh and Abercrombie. Showed M. some letters of Parr's and one of the King's, dated 1791, which he thinks alludes to something connected with the Duke of York's marriage. Talked of Adair's mission to Russia. M. thought his letter to the Bishop of Winchester good, but A. did not consider it as quite satisfactory. It seems the letter of Adair that was intercepted had been entrusted by him to some man at Petersburg in whom he had confidence, and at the man's own request. It contained a report of a conversation A. had had with some person high in office, and was laid before the council in England. Some were for proceeding on it, but Mackintosh has heard that Mr. Pitt and Lord Grenville both said they would resign if any use was made of a document so obtained. Said I should perhaps come and offer myself for dinner to-morrow. Both pressed me to do so.

11th. Walked over to Bowood, and wrote a verse of a song to Carafa's beautiful air in going. Met Lord L. and asked if I might dine with him; said he should be most happy. Went to the house and found Mackintosh. Read with him the Prince's letter in 1789, which he has always supposed to be Burke's. Thinks the passage about "separating the Court from the State" and "disconnecting the authority," &c., much more in Burke's manner of thinking than Sheridan's. After reading this fine passage with great delight, he said comically, "who the devil would ever suppose that this was all about the power of creating lords of the bedchamber?" Turned to the protest of the Lords in 1778, against the plan of desolating America, which was written by Burke and (as Mackintosh heard from Lord Fitzwilliam) the Duke of Richmond

conjointly. A most magnificent piece of writing, and could hardly have had any other hand to it than Burke's. M. showed it to me for the purpose of comparing the style with that of the Prince's letter, and I confess I began to think that Burke must have written some passages of that letter. The probability is that it was done by different hands. Abercrombie joined us; asked him about the Scotch boroughs. Gave me a general explanation of them; there is no popular election whatever in Scotland; it is as if the lords of the manor in England were to elect themselves; for it does not even depend upon property, but upon a sort of right, like that of the manorial right, which may be held independent of the property. Company at dinner, Dr. and Mrs. Fowler, the Mackintoshes, and Abercrombies. M. quoted from Churchill about Macpherson:—

Ossian sublimest, simplest bard of all,
Whom English infidels Macpherson call.

In Cesarotti's translation, Cachullin is made *Cucullino*. Was expected to stay to sleep, but took an opportunity of running away, and walked home.

12th. Am pestered with letters from all parts of the world. The other day received four, from New-York, Frankfort, Paris, and Birmingham. That from Frankfort is an account of all that the writer (a Mr. Schonbart) has done for me in the German Gazettes, where I have been attacked, and he has defended me. The Birmingham letter is from a young gentleman who wants to be my ananensis, and asks, "what remuneration I can give him for it." Last night I received a letter from a French gentleman about Miss Sophie —, who, he says, will die if she does not get a lock of Lord Byron's hair, and entreating me, in the name of her distracted family, to save her from the grave. Recollect some other things Mackintosh said. Wilberforce's good remark about the Catholics, that they were "like persons discharged from prison, but still wearing the prison dress." Mentioned an advertisement that appeared in 1792, "Wanted for a King of France, an easy good-tempered man, who can bear confinement, and has no followers." Wilberforce was made a citizen by the French Convention, and Courteney, who was in Paris at the time, said, "If you make Mr. W. a citizen, they will take you for an assemblage of negroes, for it is well known

he never favoured the liberty of any white man in all his life." Dr. Thomson said of Godwin (who in the full pride of his theory of perfectibility, said he "could educate tigers.") "I should like to see him in a cage with two of his pupils." Pitt is known to have corrected but two of his speeches—that on the Union, and another on the Budget for the year 1792. Mr. Fox, but one; that about the Duke of Bedford. His Scrutiny speech (at least the greater part of it) was reported by Dennis O'Brien. To Dr. Lawrence, who was hideously ugly, Canning and Ellis used to apply

"tetrior" alter

Non fuit, excepto Laurentis corpore Turni.*

Lord Clifford has a copy of the secret treaty entered into by Charles II. with Louis XIV., which he is about to send to Mackintosh. * * * Talked of the opinions of Eichorn, and other Germans, about the Gospels; that there was one original gospel, Matthew, from which the others have been compiled. Herbert Marsh pursues the same idea in his Preface to *Michælis*.

13th. Went into Devizes to dine with the Hugheses; Bessy and Mrs. Phipps had gone in the morning to attend the court, it being sessions time. Bingham of the party at Hughes's; some rather agreeable conversation. Singing in the evening by Bingham and me. In talking of Burke's paper upon evidence (on the trial of Hastings), Bingham said that the only fault to be found with Burke and Romilly in their notions of a reform in the laws was, that they did not go far enough; while in Mackintosh's still worse, everything he proposed was wrong. Had not an opportunity to ask him to explain this.

14th to 17th. Sent Carafa's air, "O Memory," and another (of which I forget the words) to Power. Lord Lansdowne called on the 15th, and asked me to dine at Bowood, to meet the Morleys, on Tuesday 18th.

18th. Walked to Bowood to dinner; none but the Morleys. Lady M. quoted some lines from a poem she said Delavigne had written lately on vaccination:—

"Au fond de Gloucester, ou les vastes campagnes
Nourriessent des *taureaux*, les fidelles compagnes."

Fache in poetry would be an abomination.

* ——— pulchrior alter

Non fuit, &c. *Æn.* vii. 650.

In talking of the strange practice of foreign physicians, it was mentioned that at Lisbon they always order for inflammatory fevers hen broth, and for low fevers cock broth. The Duc de Levi, in something he has written about England, is mightily pleased with a discovery he makes that *luncheon* is derived from *loungeur*. Seeing the Bond Street loungers going into the cake shops so regularly, he traced the connection between them and the meal; thus *loungeur*, *luncher*, *luncheon*. This Duc de Levi a ridiculous personage; had a picture once drawn of the Virgin Mary, and himself taking off his hat to her, the Virgin saying, as appears by a scroll out of her mouth, *Couvrez vous, mon cousin*. Quoted the line from Ariosto, *andara combattendo ed era morto*. Sung, and slept there.

19th. Lady L. proposed that they should take me to Col. Houlton's (where I have been asked to meet them) to-morrow. Col. H. himself had offered to drive over for me, but declined it.

20th. The Lansdownes called upon me at three. Company at the Houltons, their own family, Wilsons, Shirleys, &c. Elwin, and Lord James O'Brien. Sung in the evening, and Isabella Houlton delighted us with her figure and tones at the guitar; nothing can be prettier. I sung *Se fiato arete incorpo*, with John Houlton. Slept there. Elwin insisted upon my being his guest to-morrow night at Bath.

21st. Lord Lansdowne at breakfast mentioned of Dutens, who wrote the "*Mémoires d'un Voyageur que se repose*," and was a great antiquarian, that on his describing once his good luck in having found (what he fancied to be) a tooth of Scipio's, in Italy, some one asked him what he had done with it, upon which he answered briskly, "What have I done with it? *le voici*," pointing to his mouth, where he had made it supplemental to a lost one of his own. The Lansdownes off to Bath after breakfast, and I (after singing a little for the girls) followed them with Col. Houlton. The grand opening to-day of the Literary Institution at Bath. Attended the inaugural lecture by Sir G. Gibbs, at two. Walked about a little afterwards, and to dinner at six; Lord Lansdowne in the chair. Two Bishops present; and about 108 persons altogether. Bowles and Crabbe of the number. Lord L. alluded to us in his first speech, as among the literary orna-

ments, if not of Bath itself, of its precincts, and in describing our respective characteristics, said, beginning with me, "the one, a specimen of the most glowing, animated, and impassioned style," &c.; this word "impassioned" spoken out strongly in the very ear of the Bishop of Bath and Wells, who sat next him. On the healths of the three poets being given, though much called for, I did not rise, but motioned to Crabbe, who got up and said a few words. When it came to my turn to rise, such a burst of enthusiasm received me as I could not but feel proud of. Spoke for some time, and with much success. Concluded by some tributes to Crabbe and Bowles, and said of the latter, that "his poetry was the first fountain at which I had drunk the pure freshness of the English language, and learned (however little I might have profited by my learning) of what variety of sweetness the music of English verse is capable. From admiration of the poet, I had been at length promoted into friendship with the man, and I felt it particularly incumbent upon me, from some late allusions, to say, that I had found the life and the poetry of my friend to be but echoes to each other; the same sweetness and good feeling pervades and modulates both. Those who call my friend a wasp, would not, if they knew him better, make such a mistake in natural history. They would find that he is a *bee*, of the species called the *apes neatina*, and that, however he may have a sting ready on the defensive, when attacked, his native element is that garden of social life which he adorns, and the proper business and delight of his life are sunshine and flowers." In talking of the "springs of health with which nature had gifted the fair city of Bath," and of her physicians, I said, "it was not necessary to go back to the relationship between Apollo and Esculapius to show the close consanguinity that exists between literature and the healing art; between that art which purifies and strengthens the body, and those pursuits that refine and invigorate the intellect. Long," I added, "may they both continue to bless you with their beneficent effects! Long may health and the Muses walk your beautiful hills together, and mutually mingle their respective influences, till your springs themselves shall grow springs of inspiration, and it may be said,

“Flavus Apollo
Pocula Castalia plena ministrat aqua.”

Quite overwhelmed with praises, I left the room. Elwyn and I, accompanied by Bayly, and a sensible Irishman, E. introduced me to (Ellis); went to the play together. Home to Elwyn's house, where I slept.

22nd. Bowles highly gratified with what I said of him. Asked by every one to give a correct copy of it for the newspapers, but shall not, for it would break the charm which all lies in manner, the occasion, &c. &c. Duncan of Oxford said to me, “I have had that sweet oratory ringing in my ears all night.” Bowles gave me a copy of his “Roscoe pamphlet,” with an inscription in it, *inter Poëtas suaves suavisimo*, &c. &c. Left Bath with Bowles, having bought some grapes for Bessy's patient, Miss Starkey. Bowles dropt me at Buckhill from which I walked home, carrying the basket of grapes. Found all pretty well.

23d to 25th. Received a Bath paper, giving an account of the dinner, and luckily rather describing than attempting to give my speech. Had a letter from Cruttwell asking me to send him a correct report of it, but too late to do so.

26th. Took my dear Anastasia to school. Dined at Bayly's, in order to go to the Dramatic Ball in the evening: nothing could be more brilliantly got up than the latter. An amateur play first, and the fancy ball afterwards; an allusion to me in the epilogue spoken by Bayly, “Erin's matchless son,” &c. which brought plaudits and stares on me. Introduced to quantities of people; came away with Elwyn before two, and supped and slept at his house.

27th. Mr. Duncan to breakfast, and some very agreeable conversation. Cruttwell has a pretended report of my speech, not one word of which I spoke. Left in the Devizes coach at half-past four. Had a chaise at Melksham, and home.

28th. Walked to Bowood. Neither at home, but met Lord L. as I was coming back, and he dismounted and walked with me. Much conversation about the intentions of the Ministry about Ireland.

29th. Working at something for Power.

30th. Walked over to Bowood, and lunched with the Lansdownes, who start for London to-morrow.

31st. Sent Power off “No, leave this heart to rest,” and something else.

Feb. 1st to 8th. Have kept no traces of these days except that they were all occupied with Sheridan. Bessy all this time attending upon Miss Starkey, and injuring her own health.

9th. Took Bessy to Bath to see Liston. Had received an invitation from the Houltons to come over, Bessy and I, to them the following Saturday (12th), to stay till Monday, and go to the Subscription Ball at Bath; but the two frisks rather too much. The Phippses already at Bath. Dined at Elwyn's; company, Mr. and Miss Bayly, Miss Pinny, and Tom Bayly. Went to the play afterwards, and laughed a good deal at Liston in “Solomon Grundy,” and “Peter Finn.” Slept at Elwyn's. Had walked about in the morning with dear Anastasia; heard the “Infant Lyra” play, &c. &c.

10th. Duncan to breakfast. Suggested as a good topic for an Essay, “The choice of subjects for pictures.” A man with a poetical head, and at the same time a connoisseur in painting, might make a great deal of this. Bowles in Bath, and offered to take us home, but we could not start time enough.

14th. Sent Power a glee of my own, which I think rather pretty, “When o'er the silent seas alone.”

17th. The irritation between Phipps and the Starkeys has at last broken out into open war.

22nd. Heard Phipps stirring at five; came down stairs soon afterwards, and found he had mounted his horse and rode off; Mrs. P. in a frightful state when she heard he was gone. Got her with great difficulty into the carriage to bring her to Sloperton. Advised Phipps, before he went away, to settle the matter at this side of the water, even at the risk of his 500*l*.

23rd. No intelligence to-day. Rumours of various kinds in the village, where all is known. Supposed that the parties had gone to fight on Lavington Down, and the country people collecting to see the combat. My attention all devoted to keeping Mrs. P. quiet, and dissuading her from her intention of going to Southampton, as much for Bessy's sake, who was to accompany her, as her own. Sent to Melksham this evening, but no tidings. Began to fear they must have crossed the water.

24th. Sent to Melksham at twelve, but no tidings. About four saw Mrs. Hughes (who had come over in the morning) running breathless and crying towards me. Feared something bad and ran to meet her, but found Phipps was returned and safe. In a short time his chaise appeared, and after a short scene with Mrs. P. learned the particulars. They had fought at Southampton; fired twice. His first shot went through John Starkey's hat, and Starkey's second, on the rebound, grazed his foot. He and Mrs. P. stayed to dinner and sleep.

25th to 28th. Nothing particular; hard at work at Sheridan. Sent Power a glee of my own, "When o'er the silent seas alone."

March 1st to 12th. One day exactly like another. Heard two or three times from Lord Lansdowne; the Catholic Question making great progress. Received a new Magazine with a memoir of myself and portrait; answered the editor. Had a long letter from Shiel in answer to one I wrote to him containing advice as to the style of his oratory during his mission to England; recommended him to be as matter-of-fact, and as sparing of *flowers* as possible. Took my advice very amiably.

13th. Mary Dalby arrived to pass some time with us. Wrote for Power a ditty, "There's a song of the olden time."

14th to 18th. *Semper eadem*. Having done my Sheridan task as far as the year 1799, and shall now return to revise it from the very beginning.

24th. Dined at Money's to meet a Cambridge friend of his. Much talk about classics and public schools. M. remarked on the eloquence of Virgil. The speech of Dido to Æneas, beginning with scolding and ending with tenderness and tears, so like a woman. Sinon's speech, too, *Vos, eterni ignes*, &c. Some passages, too, from the Epistle of Laodamia to Protesilaus:

"Aulide te fama est vento retinente morari;
Ah, me cum fugeres, hic ubi ventus erat?"

And, further on, *Inter mille rates tua sit millesima puppis*. Story about *Academia*. Home early.

25th. Our wedding day. A dish of salmon, as usual, from our friend Power. Fourteen years married to-day.

26th. Set off for Bath to take Anastasia to

school, and forward the first batch of my Sheridan Life to the press. Dined with Crawford. Company, besides Elwyn and myself, the O'Briens, Lord and Lady St. Germans, and a beautiful girl, their niece. Sung in the evening. Slept at Elwyn's.

27th. Read over, after breakfast, Ricardo's article on the Sinking Fund, in the Encyclopædia; and some passages of Tooke on the Bank Restriction. Left Bath at three, and home at seven.

28th to 31st. Every day pretty nearly the same, working at Sheridan. Dined on the 30th at Hardman's, to meet Lord and Lady Ashtown, and Scott. The day very agreeable.

April 1st to 8th. Still revising, and introducing new matter into the early part of the Life. Received the first proof. Under much anxiety about my dearest father, who is beginning at last, I fear, to yield to the weakness attendant upon years. My own mind prepared for the worst, but my poor mother will, I am afraid, be taken by surprise and feel it dreadfully. Have written to insinuate, as gently as possible, into her heart those apprehensions with which my own is filled.

9th. Bessy and Mary Dalby (with little Tom of the party) set off to Bath, to pass a couple of days with Mrs. Branigan, who is just arrived there. Dined alone.

10th. Walked to Bremhill, to take my chance of finding Bowles. Dined with him. His illness much increased by his apprehensions; seemed to forget it all in the gaiety of conversation. Mentioned his anxiety, before he died, to write the Life of Bishop Ken, who voted for the exclusion of James, and yet afterwards sacrificed his bishopric rather than swear allegiance to king William. Was supported the remainder of his days by Lord Weymouth, who gave him two hundred a-year, and had him to live with him at Long-leat. Isaac Walton married Ken's sister, hence the name he gives her, "Kenna." Bowles has made a pretty glee of some very charming words from Cowley's *Daideis*, "Awake, my Lyre." In talking of profane parodies, mentioned Swift's about Sir R. Walpole: "I believe in one infallible King," &c. &c., "one Minister," &c. &c.

April 11th to May 11. For this whole month have been too closely occupied with my Sheridan task to write a word here, and must,

therefore, only recollect what I can. Received a letter from some Mrs. F. (whom I never heard of before) in which she says, "Your talents and excellence have long been the idols of my heart. With thee were the dreams of my earliest love," &c. The object of the letter is to invite me to a dinner she is about to give to "a few select friends in memory of Lord Byron!" Her husband, she adds, is a "gentleman and a scholar;" I wish him joy of her. My dear father much recovered. Had a correspondence with Woolriche about Bessy's state of health; promised to leave the Duke of Bedford, on his way up from Devonshire, and come to see her. Did so on the 20th; does not think her liver affected, which is a relief; but is of opinion that, if the medicine he has ordered does not do her good, she must go to Cheltenham. Mrs. Branigan came to us from Bath on the 18th. Lady Campbell (Pamela) called with Mrs. Bowles. Dined one day at Brabant's, to meet the Nestor of Lewesden Hill; has got too deaf for conversation. The day rather agreeable. Bowles called upon me one day; has had a favourable answer from his friend Mr. Clarke with respect to the application he made to him for our dear little Tom, whom he expects to get into Winchester for me. Wrote to Brougham (in consequence of a salutation on one of his franks, "Health and Fraternity") to ask him to give me the particulars of what he said with regard to the Prince's marriage with Mrs. F. when we met at Denman's; had an answer from him to say he would send me some curious matter on the subject. Wrote to Lord Holland too, about a paper which he promised to give me; had two letters from him; the second very lively. In writing to him mentioned that my occupation with the "Life of Sheridan," robbed me of all the gaiety that was going on in town, and that I might be said "*propter vitam vivendi perdere causas.*" Had a correspondence, too, with Dr. Bain on my intention to pay him a visit, which he has very hospitably pressed me to do. Sent up Power two more glees, "The Watchman," and "The Spirits." Mrs. Branigan left us on the 9th of May. Mary Dalby still with us.

May 12th. A visit from Crofton Croker on his way from Ireland; says the whole feeling there is in favour of Emancipation. Hardly a dissenting voice on the subject.

15th. Received the 112th page of my printing. Wrote to Dr. Bain to say I should be with him on Tuesday next.

16th. Copied out some parts of my revision, and prepared for my trip. Dined at half-past one; Bessy borrowed farmer Gaby's donkey gig, and all set off for Buckhill. Drank tea there, and watched for the Bath coaches. Took the second and arrived in Bath at eight. Went to see my darling Anastasia; looked very well, but it struck me that her shoulder was a little more out than when I last saw her. Begged of Miss Furness to look carefully to it. Went for a short time to the play. Supped at the White Lion, and slept there.

17th. Set off in the Poole coach at half-past nine. Went half the way outside from a mistake about the place. This contrary to my pact with Bessy, but shall not tell her of it. Arrived at Blandford a little after five. Took a chaise, and was at Dr. Bain's at a little after seven; received me very kindly. No one at dinner but himself and two daughters. A good deal of talk about Sheridan (the object of my visit) after dinner. Find Mrs. Canning's letter not quite correct about Mrs. Sheridan's last moments. Bain was sent for at midnight; Mrs. C. and S. in the room at the time. Mrs. S. begged them to go away for a moment, and bid Bain lock the door after them; then said, "You have never deceived me: tell me truly shall I live over this night?" B. felt her pulse; found she was dying, and said, "I recommend you to take some laudanum." She answered, "I understand you, then give it me." Said (in telling me this) that the laudanum, he knew, would prolong her life a little, and enable her better to go through the scene that was before her in taking leave of her family. S.'s kindness to her, quite the devotedness of a lover.

18th. Walked about the grounds with Dr. Bain and his daughters; rather nice girls. Much talk with him about Sheridan, but got little more. Am very glad, however, I came, as I should have reproached myself for not having done so, and others would reproach me also. Vaughan told him that there were two hundred pounds placed at his disposal for Sheridan, but Bain never understood (as Croker and others assert) that there was more than that sum to come. Believes that Sheri-

dan's dispositions were all good, and that his embarrassments alone were the cause of whatever was wrong in his conduct. Story of Sheridan's butler saying (when Bain was called in and found him in a high fever) that he had drunk nothing extraordinary the day before, "only two bottles of port." Sheridan's arm remarkably thin, though powerfully strong; contrary to the usual notion (Bain said) that an arm must be brawny and muscular to be strong. A most capacious chest; altogether a man of great strength; and but for his intemperance would have had a very long life. Talking to Bain, who had said that Pitt was a very extraordinary man, he answered, "He *is* an extraordinary man, and the more we press him the more he shines." Sung with the Misses Bain after dinner several duets of my own, and of Asioli's; also some old favourites of mine, out of the "*Proserpina*," *Ti reggo, l'abbraccio*, and *Mi lasci oh madre amata*.

19th. Drove with the Doctor and his two girls to Wareham. Told me of Sheridan's having passed off a young country farmer at Crewe Hall as Richardson. Dined early in order that I might get to Blandford before dark; set off in a chaise, a little before seven; had tea at Blandford, and went to bed after mourning over the debate in the Lords on the Catholic Question. What wretched infatuation! A smug rector, in the morning, at Wareham, was waiting eagerly for the coming in of the post, and I left him chuckling over Lord Liverpool's anilities. These are the fellows to whom Ireland is sacrificed.

20th. Set off in the Poole coach at half-past eight: got to Bath at four: ran to see my sweet Anastasia. Had some cold meat at the York House, and took the Devizes coach as far as Melksham, from whence I walked, and got home about nine. Found all, thank God, pretty well.

21st. Sent to ask Dr. Starkey, and the new curate, to dine with us on Wednesday next.

22nd. Could not help (busy as I was) giving vent to some of my bile against the anti-Popery set, by writing a few lines for the "Morning Chronicle."

23rd. Sent to Power a slight sketch of a glee, "Pretty Maid, pretty Maid." Not quite good enough, I fear, for the set of six I mean to do for him. Sent off, also, to the "Morning

Chronicle" my squib against Lord Anglesey and the Bishops, beginning "A Bishop and a bold Dragoon." Read it to Mary at breakfast, who, with all her High Church prejudices, enjoyed the fun of it.

24th. Received a letter from some gentleman at Cork, telling me that he has been collecting Irish airs for me, and sending me some specimens. Must thank him.

25th. Starkey, and four or five more, whom I had asked, being luckily engaged, my dinner consisted only of —, —, and —. *Dullissimum*.

26th. Squib not in: must have been delayed by my enclosing it to Power. Went with Bessy, Mary, the children, and maids to the Bromham fair, and took them all to the show, where we made a great sensation among the clods. Rather a pretty girl one of the dancers.

27th. "The Bishop and the bold Dragoon" inserted conspicuously. Walked to Devizes to draw upon Power. Dined late. Had a letter from Denman telling me that M. A. Taylor is anxious to give me some information about Sheridan. Mentioned, also, the "Bold Dragoon," as a proof that I was *in esse*.

28th. My birthday. What, again! well, the more the merrier; at least I hope so; and, as yet (with all my difficulties), have no reason to complain. An excellent, warm-hearted, lively wife, and dear, promising children. What more need I ask for? A little addition of health to the wife, and wealth to the husband, would make all perfect. Prepared for my trip to town to-morrow.

29th. Left for town. Dined with the Storys. Found a note from Lord Lansdowne asking me to dine with him to-morrow.

30th. Called upon the Donegals, Lady Jersey, &c. Dined with Lord Lansdowne. Went to Lady Jersey's in the evening; Lady Belhaven wanted to take me off to the fancy ball on Lord B.'s ticket, but, having no dress, could not.

31st. Dined with the Fieldings. Went to the Opera. Was to have taken Corry afterwards to Lady Lansdowne's assembly, but it was put off in consequence of the death of her niece, Lady C. Lemon's daughter. Sat some time in Lady Tankerville's box: thence to the Duke of Bedford's. Thanked the Duchess for the wish she had expressed

through Woolriche to have me among the beautiful scenery of Endsleigh with them. Then to Lord Grey's box, where I sat for the rest of the night, talking with him and Lady L. Lambton. Went with Corry, and supped at Long's. Met there Sir Godfrey Webster; reminded by him of the night that Lord Byron and I found him in the same manner at Stevens's, and sat together till four in the morning. By the by, Charles Sheridan told me the other night at Lady Jersey's (to my great delight) that he had found a copy of his father's defence of his conduct in 1811. This paper, which was addressed to Lord Holland, is of great consequence, and Lord Holland, who first told me of it, added that he did not feel himself authorised to give it me.

June 1st. A letter from Bessy to say I may expect her to-morrow. Dined with Corry at the Piazza, and went to Almack's at night.

2nd. Dressed early (having to dine at Holland House), for the purpose of meeting Bessy at the coach. Mrs. Story took me, and after our waiting some time at Knightsbridge the Bath coach arrived with Bessy, Tom, and Mary Dalby. Deposited the two former at Mrs. Story's, and proceeded to Holland House. Sat next my Lady, who was very gracious, filled my glass amply with champagne, and descanted on the merits and prices of Rudesheim, Johannisberg, and Hockheim. Said to me during dinner, "This will be a dull book of yours, this 'Sheridan,' I fear." "On the contrary," I replied, "it will be a very lively, amusing book! not from my part in it, but" &c. &c. In the evening Lady Lansdowne came, looking so handsome and so good, that it was quite comfortable to see her. Told her of Bessy's arrival. "Then she'll come to me," she said, "on Saturday evening." "Bessy," I answered, "has brought no evening things, for the express purpose of *not* going anywhere." After a short pause she turned round, in her lively way, and said, "I'll tell you what: bring Mrs. Moore to see me to-morrow morning, and she shall have the choice of my wardrobe: I assure you it's a very convenient one, fits both fat and lean. I once dressed out four girls for a ball, and there were four gowns of mine dancing about the room all night." Lord John Russell drove me in his cabriolet. In talking of what Lady Holland said to me about my book,

mentioned a sally of the same kind she made the other day upon Lord Porchester, who has a poem coming out. "I am sorry to hear you are going to publish a poem. Can't you suppress it?" Promised to dine at Holland House on Sunday. Called this morning upon Lucy Drew, who is just arrived.

3rd. Breakfasted with Rogers. Went with me afterwards to the Arcade, to meet Bessy. Dined with the Longmans at Hampstead: company, Sir R. Ker Porter and his two sisters, the novelists. In the evening Joanna Baillie. Sang a good deal.

4th. Went out with Lucy and Bessy, in Lucy's *remise*. Bessy paid several visits to Lady Donegal, Lady E. Fielding, &c. Dined at Story's (Corry of the party): and all went to the Opera in the evening. Woolriche saw Bessy in the morning, and thinks she had better go to Cheltenham. Lady Donegal going there too, which will make it more comfortable. Went from the Opera, with Corry, to Lady Lansdowne's, where we heard "Pasta," &c. Found a note from Brougham on my return home; asking me to dine with him, if possible, to-morrow; as he is to have Creevy and M. A. Taylor, and "will make them talk Sheridan for me as long as I please."

5th. Lucy called for me. Much puzzled about my engagement to Holland House to-day. Resolved at last to throw myself on the good nature of Lady H., and tell her my reason for dining with Brougham instead. Drove to Brougham's, and despatched a note from thence to Holland House. Called on Lord John: told him I should bring Bessy to pay him a visit in the course of the day: did so. Called with her also at Miss White's and Edward Moore's. Company at Brougham's: Creevy, M. A. Taylor and Mrs. T., Dr. Lushington, Lord Nugent, Lord and Lady Darlington, &c. &c. After dinner Creevy and Brougham got Taylor to tell his famous story about Sheridan's reply on Hastings' Trial, when Taylor was his assistant to hold his bag and read the minutes; but neither bag nor minutes were forthcoming. Shall make use of the story. Found them all adrift about dates; even Taylor, as to events in which himself was concerned, brought circumstances together that were in reality more than a year apart: have observed this invariably in all the men of that time. Went afterwards for a short time, to Mrs. Story's.

6th. Had the engraver and Charles Sheridan with me to consider the print of Sheridan, done for the work, which is very bad. Went out with Bessy and Lucy. Took them for half an hour to the Exhibition. Dined (Bessy, Tom, and I) at the Donegals'; and went in the evening to see Matthews. Bessy too tired to stay. Called with her this morning upon Lord and Lady Hastings, who were very kind to her. I had myself seen him a day or two before, and felt all my first sentiments of kindness towards him brought freshly back by the sweetness of his manner, as well as by a certain tone of melancholy, which looks as if he had at last found out what a mistake his life has been. The King, I understand, has completely dropped him.

7th. Went about a little with Bessy. Dined at Story's: and having taken places for Bessy and Tom in to-morrow morning's coach, brought them to sleep at my lodgings for the greater convenience of getting off. Left them in bed, and went to Mrs. Bennet's ball for a short time.

8th. Up at five; and saw my treasures safe in the coach. Returned, and went to sleep again for an hour and a half. Had Mr. Smythe (the professor) with me while I breakfasted. Told me a great deal about his connection with Sheridan; his first coming to town for Sheridan to look at him, and form his opinion: S. not coming to the dinner made for the purpose, but appointing Richardson and him to meet him at a tavern at supper: not coming there either. At last went to dine at Isleworth with him: no mention made of the business after dinner, but Sheridan wrote him a handsome letter in a few days after: the salary, with apologies for not being able to give more, 300*l.* a-year. At the end of the first year a groom came down to Wanstead with a letter to Smythe, enclosing a draft for 300 guineas: Smythe's anxiety in taking it to the bankers': his suspense while the men behind the counter conferred together, and his delight when asked "in what form he would take the money." Remembers Sheridan going down to Wanstead to prepare for his reply to the Counsel of Hastings: two or three days hard at work reading; complained that he had motes before his eyes with reading so much. Smythe heard his reply: his laceration of Law, powerful. Law had laid himself open by wrongfully accusing

Sheridan of showing a wrong paper to Middleton to entrap him into the answer he wished; whereas it was Lord Camden that made this mistake, and Sheridan corrected it. Burke addressed S. in the box friendly, and said he was sorry he meant to conclude in one day: also went up to him and thanked him at the conclusion. Thinks that S. had no sordid ideas about money, and always *meant* rightly. Never forgave the Whigs for supporting the Duke of Northumberland's son against him at Westminster. The best man to advise *others* that could be found anywhere: no such man for a cabinet. Knew what would suit the public: his powers of winning over people, proved by his persuading the parson to bury Richardson over again for him. Smythe quoted as sublime S.'s phrase, "Let them go and hide their heads in their coronets;" also the happy phrase applied to some of his own party at the time of the threatened invasion, "giving the left hand to the country." Smythe one day, while looking over his table, while waiting to catch him coming out of his bedroom, saw several unopened letters, one with a coronet, and said to Wesley, "We are all treated alike." Upon which Wesley told him that he had once found amongst the unopened heap a letter of his own to Sheridan, which he knew contained a ten pound, sent by him to release S. from some inn where he was "money bound," and that he opened it, and took out the money. Wesley said, also, that the butler had assured him he found once the window-frames stuffed with papers to prevent them from rattling, and on taking them out, saw they were bank notes, which S. had used for this purpose some stormy night and never missed them.

9th. Took Lucy and her pretty friend Clementina to Willis's in St. James's Street, to hear a Spaniard whom Sir William Carol had appointed to sing some of his national songs for me at one o'clock. The Spaniard sick in bed; but it being a drawing-room day, the sight from Willis's balcony was very gay, and we were regaled with luncheon, civilities, &c. &c. Went from thence with them to the Diorama. Dined at Lord Auckland's: company, Luttrell, Fielding, James Stuart, and young Grenville. The latter sung a little in the evening, and so did I.

10th. Breakfasted with M. A. Taylor by

appointment; beautiful house. Sat with him in his garden looking upon the Thames, and talked of Sheridan; mentioned his own share in the transaction of 1811. Being sent for by the Prince at three in the morning, found him, Sheridan, and Adam together, the latter looking very black. The Prince produced to Michael a rough draft of an answer to the Address of the Houses (which was to be given the next day), and said he must make two fair copies of it immediately, adding, "these d—— fellows (*i. e.* Lords and Commons) will be here in the morning." The draft was partly in the handwriting of the Prince, and partly in that of Sheridan. The Prince, by Michael's advice, went to bed, and Michael set to copying, while Sheridan and Adam were pacing up and down at opposite parts of the room. Presently Adam came to Michael's elbow and whispered him (looking at Sheridan), "that's the d——dest rascal existing." A little after, Sheridan came and whispered Michael, "Da—n them all!" (meaning Adam, Lords Grey and Grenville, &c.) Having performed his task, Taylor went home and returned to Carlton House next morning, where he found the members of the Houses already arriving. The Prince, who was still in bed, sent for him, and said, "Are those fellows come?" "Yes, sir, some of them are arrived." "D—n them all," was the reply. He then told Michael that he must make fresh copies of the address, as there had been more alterations in it. Michael told me he saw very plainly, at this time, that there was mischief brewing against the Whigs. In the arrangements under the Regency, it was intended Lord Moira should go to Ireland, and that Sheridan should be his secretary. Michael had been, I believe, first intended for this situation; but it was afterwards decided by the Prince that he should remain in England and be Judge Advocate. Lord Grey, who (as Michael expressed it) was "all upon stilts" at the prospect of coming into power, in talking to Taylor of his appointment, said he saw no objection to his having it, as the Prince desired; to which Taylor replied, that he thought it very doubtful whether *any of them* would come in, to the evident surprise and not a little pique of Lord Grey, who said, "How should you know anything about it?" The Prince a day or two after went to Windsor, where the Queen and the Duke of Cum-

berland settled the whole matter. Lucy Drew took me out to Holland House; found Lord and Lady Holland; and the latter gave me a little lecture on my transgression of Sunday last. Thence went and left my name at Canning's. Dined at Lord Jersey's: company, the Tankervilles, Lord Duncannon, Sydney Smith, Brougham, &c.

11th. A note from Lady Holland to ask me for two or three different days next week; sent her my list to show her how double, treble locked and bolted I am for dinners during my stay. Dined at Lord Lansdowne's with Corry: company, Lord Auckland, the Grahams, Murtado, and other Spanish Americans, and Lady Cochrane. Introduced to the last, who is pretty and odd; told me she would at any time have walked ten miles barefoot to see me. Some curious conversations after dinner, about Spanish America. Sung in the evening.

12th. Breakfasted with Rogers. Dined at Phipps's; company, Sydney Smith and his family, James Smith (of the "Rejected Addresses"), Charles Moore, and Mrs. Siddons. Sung in the evening with the Miss Smiths. Lady Morgan's little niece sung very prettily with Madlle. Castelli; sung also myself, and went afterwards to Mrs. Fleming's music. Heard some things by Garcia, Caradori, &c. and then home.

13th. Dined at Rees's in Paternoster Row with Corry. Tom Campbell of the party. The day not very agreeable. L's carriage called and took me to her at Mr. Barber's at the Charter House; a nice old man and nice old place. From thence to Lady Jersey's child's ball, the prettiest ball I have ever seen in London. Interesting, to trace the beautiful mothers in their daughters, Lady Cowper, Mrs. Littleton, Lady Grantham, &c. &c.

14th. Dined at Lord Dacre's: company, Lord and Lady Tavistock, Joanna Baillie, and Grattan. Rather agreeable.

15th. Had a note from Lady Holland to ask me to join her to-night at the play. Miss Tree's last appearance. Said "I think you might *squeeze* in a day to dine with us." Dined at Lord King's: company, Sydney Smith, George Fortescue, Lord Fortescue, the Lansdownes, the Cowpers, &c. During Smith's visit to the Observatory, said to the man, "Mr. ———, it must be very interesting

to observe the progress of comets." "No, indeed, sir," answered the astronomer, "comets are very foolish things, and give a vast deal of trouble." Went to the play to Lady Holland, who had Lord John with her. Was to have gone to music at Lord Ashtown's, but too late.

16th. Breakfasted at Rogers's: Sydney Smith and his family, Luttrell, Lord John, Sharpe, &c.; highly amusing. Story of Forth, who informed Mr. Pitt during the French war, that there were two persons on their way from the North of Europe to assassinate him. Measures were accordingly taken by the Ministers to track their progress; they were seized, I believe, at Brussels, and in prison there for some years. It afterwards turned out that these men, instead of being assassins, were creditors of Forth, who were coming over to arrest him for a large sum, and he took this method of getting rid of them. Talked of Sir Robert Wilson. After the battle of Leipsic, to the gaining of which he was instrumental, Lord Castlereagh, in sending over to Lord Stewart the public document containing the orders for thanks to Wilson, among others on the occasion, accompanied it with a private one desiring Lord Stewart to avoid the thanks to Wilson as much as he could, in order not to give a triumph to his party. Lord Stewart, by mistake, showed this letter, instead of the public one, to Wilson, who has had the forbearance never to turn it against the Government since. Dined at Lord Listowel's; Corry and I and Latham went together. (By the by, C. has made me a present of a handsome dressing case.) Company, Spring Rice, the Buses, the Knight of Kerry, &c. &c. Some agreeable conversation about Burke, Pitt, &c. after dinner. Thence to Lady Jersey's, having been ordered by Lady Holland to join her there, though not asked. Found the Duke of Bedford, Lord King, Lord John, and Tierney. Set off with Lord Jersey and Tierney to go to Prince Leopold's assembly. Stopped by the string of carriages at the top of St. James's Street. Lord J. got out to walk, and I stayed with Tierney, and had about half an hour's conversation. Seems utterly to despair of any change in politics; remarked the success of Peel in procuring popularity for himself by this new jury measure; his name associated with it at public dinners; the only reformer

of the day. On my saying that Canning might carry the Catholic Question by resigning and coalescing with the Whigs, he said, "Who the devil will coalesce with people that don't coalesce with themselves." The assembly very crowded; the Prince Leopold full of civility to me. Talked about his house being a curious old mansion, and that he meant to make an alteration in the doorways which are too small. I answered (not very courtier-like) that the rooms, too, were rather small. "Oh," he replied, "there's a good deal of space," and I tried to get out of the scrape by saying that I had as yet seen but few of them. Lord Hastings expressed a wish to have a minute's conversation with me, and on our reaching a retired part of the room said that he heard I intended, in my forthcoming work, to bring forward proof of the King's marriage with Mrs. Fitzherbert. Instead of giving some uncertain answer which might have drawn from him an explanation of the object he had in this inquiry, I answered that I had no such intentions, nor, indeed, knew anything of the existence of such proofs, but merely meant to allude to the *constitutional* consequences that *would* have resulted from such a marriage had it taken place. It is evident, I think, that the Carlton House people have expressed some alarm on the subject, and that his lordship volunteered his mediation to prevent what they dreaded. But does not this look as if Lord Hastings was aware such proofs exist? I called upon him, by the by, the other morning, and after reminding him of what he had once told me (at a time when I little thought I should ever be the biographer of Sheridan), that, after Fox's death, he (Lord H.) and Sheridan were entirely slighted by the remaining ministry, asked him whether he had any objection to my alluding to this circumstance. He answered, "not the least;" and added, as another instance of their indisposition towards himself, that when the Prince afterwards associated him with Lords Grenville and Grey in drawing up an answer to the Address of the Houses, they refused to act with him. Stayed but a short time, and after hearing one frightful squall from Veluti, came home.

17th. Dined with Agar Ellis: company, Lord Clifton, the Ponsonbys, Brougham, the Berrys, William Bankes, &c. At night Lucy's carriage (which she lent me) called to take

me to Paddington. Corry was to have gone with me, but could not, on account of some business connected with the Linen Trade Committee. Expected to meet there the celebrated poetess L. E. L., but was disappointed. Only two or three persons: among them a professor of the pianoforte, who sang some airs of his own to mine and Byron's words very prettily. Supped, and did not leave till between two and three. Left Miss Rennie and her sister at home, having kept L.'s carriage all night.

18th. Dined with the Spottiswoodes; a large family party.

19th. Walked with Corry in Kensington Gardens. Dined at the Barings': company, Laseelles, Wm. Bankes, &c. &c.

20th. Dined at Lord Cawdor's: the Abercrombies, Ponsonbys, &c. Meant to have dined with Burgess first, but breakfasted with him this morning instead.

21st. Busy in my arrangements for starting for Brighton to-morrow, where I am going to see a Mr. I——, who professes to be able to tell me much about Sheridan. Edward Moore has offered to take me in his carriage. Dined with him; only Corry besides. Bid my wine-merchant send some samples of port for me to try there.

I have set down here not one half what occurred, as I was too busy all the time in town to make memorandums at the moment, but I shall here add a few more particulars. The day I dined with Brougham he gave me, in coming away, the observations he had promised me on the subject of the Prince's marriage with Mrs. Fitzherbert, filling about four sheets of note paper. How he can find time for every thing is quite miraculous: yesterday, besides his law business, he attended and spoke at two public meetings. A few mornings after I met Creevy at Brougham's, I called upon the former by appointment, and heard a good deal from him about Sheridan. Passed some time with S. in Northumberland (at Orde's I believe). S.'s gaiety: acted over the Battle of the Pyramids on Marston Moor, ordering "Captain Creevy to cut out that cow," pointing to a cow in a ditch. S.'s anxious efforts in 1805 to get the Prince to give the Receivership to Tom. Creevy has seen him cry while entreating the Prince on the subject. Sheridan one day told Creevy that having gone to Cox's (?), where he used to receive his money for the

Receivership, and requested they would lend him ten pounds on account, the clerk said, "Havn't you received my letter, sir?" Sheridan answered in the negative, the truth being (Creevy said) that letters were very often not taken in at his house for want of assets to pay the postage. The clerk then told him, to his no small surprise and joy, that there were 1200*l.* in their hands placed to his account, and arising from some *fine*, I think, connected with his office. S. instantly, on the strength of this, took a house at Barnes Terrace, set up a carriage, and spent the 1200*l.* in a very few months. Sheridan very expert at dressing an Irish stew in a country party. Creevy was witness, in 1805, to the introduction of Sheridan*ix* for the first time to Hastings, by the Prince at the Pavilion. S. said something to this effect, "You are, I am sure, too much a man of the world not to feel that all I did on that occasion was merely in the spirit of politics," &c. &c. Hastings appeared much pleased by his declaration, and hinted that it would be no small gratification to him, before he died, to have these sentiments made known to the world. S. on this *backed out* as well as he could. C. says S. was *not* in the habit of borrowing: had Whitbread's authority also for this. Sheridan *twice*, he thinks, in a spunging house: Whitbread described his finding him there, speculating upon Westminster, Lord Cochrane having been just then disgraced.

The night of Lady Jersey's ball the Duke of Gloucester returned again to the subject of Captain Rock: said he had lent it to a great Tory, and it had converted him. On asking Burgess about Sheridan's debts, he said he had paid 150 per cent. upon them all. The statement of his having drawn 330,000*l.* from the theatre, he says, not true. His habit of carrying a bag of papers with him when he went to a coffee-house, to look over them there; took one day a bag of love letters by mistake, and getting drunk left them there: this was what Ward told me of. The sum asked by the person who got possession of them was one hundred guineas, but they were regained in the violent way I have mentioned.

22nd. Set off between eleven and twelve, and arrived to a late dinner at Brighton. Mr. I——, as I heard before I left town, gone to London on a consultation till Friday, so I shall

have to stay all over to-morrow. Walked about.

23rd. Sir Richard Phillips called, and bored me beyond measure. Heard that Lord John Townshend was in Brighton; went and sat some time with him; promised to drink tea with him and Lady John in the evening. Dined with Sir Richard (Moore and I); his daughter a fine woman, brought up entirely on vegetables, like himself, both telling well for this Pythagorean diet. Went to Lord John T.; had much talk with him about Sheridan.

24th. Strolling about Brighton. Mr. — was to arrive at four; conceived but little expectations from him; evidently a take in. Dined in a hurry at the inn, and then set off with Moore to —'s, who had claret, fruit, and Sir Richard Phillips laid out for us. Just as I thought; a good, vulgar, jolly, ignorant gentleman, whom Sheridan laid hold of in his latter days, and who was just as fit a recipient for his wit, as a hog trough would be for champagne. Got literally nothing out of him but a few glasses of wine, and escaped with Moore as soon as I could to a raffle at the Library. This is too bad; to come expressly too from London for such a bubble! If I had not met Lord John, I should have just nothing for my pains. Lord John, by the by, told me that in Sheridan's song, "When 'tis night," it was originally, instead of "Some pretty girl and true" (which Lord J. suggested), "Who had his last adieu."

25th. Set off for town between ten and eleven. Dined at Richmond, and while dinner was getting ready walked to look at Lord Lansdowne's beautiful villa. Got to town at seven. Saw L. Packed up.

26th. Started for Sloperton; Lucy's old friend, Mr. Barber, in the coach; rather an agreeable journey. The whole of this next month was devoted, with little interruption, to my Sheridan task, correcting proofs, and finishing what yet remained to be written. Found at home, on my arrival, an extract from Dr. Parr's will, sent me by his executors, in which he says, "I give a ring to Thomas Moore, of Sloperton, Wilts, who stands high in my estimation for original genius, for his exquisite sensibility, for his independent spirit, and incorruptible integrity." During the hot weather of this month, July (hotter than any remembered for many years), we were imprudent

enough to have parties for the children on several of the most sultry evenings, at our own house, Prowse's (the curate, who has four or five little ones), and Phipps's: blindman's buff, and racing in such weather, was but ill likely to do either old or young any good; none, however, suffered by it except Bessy, her leg not getting at all well. Towards the end of July the Lansdownes arrived. Bessy left home for Cheltenham on the 22nd, where Lady Donegal had provided lodgings for her, and Bowles took her and the two little ones (Tom and Russell) in his carriage. A few days before I had attended the funeral of Henry Joy's father, as pall-bearer, at Chippenham. Slept at Bowles's the night before. Long and amusing arguments with him, as usual, about the Church, the universities, &c. &c. Looked at Milton's Latin sonnet to his tutor, Thomas Young. It was his zeal and affection for this tutor (B. said) that first led him into controversy. Young was one of the writers of "Smeectymnuus" (which name was made up out of the initials of the different authors), and when the work was attacked, Milton stepped forward in its defence. Looked also over Wharton's beautiful passage in his Preface to Milton's Poems, expressing the regret that must be felt at his abandonment of poetry, &c. for the wrangling of politics. Nothing can be happier than his application of Milton's own passage, ending "What need a vermil-tinctured lip for this." On the 28th my dearest Anastasia left me for school, having been my housekeeper since her mamma went. Dined with the Lansdownes three times, once at Phipps's, and once at Locke's.

August 4th. Set off for Cheltenham. Had a chaise to the Cross-Hands, where I took the coach. An Irish lady, who was not a little angry at my laughing at her country: told her who I was before we parted, and nothing could exceed her surprise and pleasure. Found darling Bessy in a snug little cottage, No. 10, Suffolk Parade; or rather found her at Lady Donegal's, whither she had gone to dinner. A little better, but the leg still continuing bad; not allowed to take exercise. The Donegals all kindness to her and her little ones; Tom calling Lady D. "Granny," and all like the same family. Proposed that Bessy and Barbara should go to the play. Did so: Young in Hamlet; the King and Ophelia laughable

beyond any thing. Little Tom much delighted.

5th. Went out with Bessy; she in the chair, and I walking. Dined with the Donegals. In the evening, Lord and Lady Kenmare, and young Wilmot: sung a good deal to them.

6th. Went with Barbara and Miss Godfrey to see the humours of the Wells before breakfast. Drove about afterwards with Bessy and Barbara. Called and sat a little while with Lady Kenmare. After dinner went to the Walks (Sir A. and Lady Faulkner being of our party), and I had to stand the stare of the night.

7th. Started in the coach for town, with heart much lighter for having seen my dear girl and her urchins: arrived at eight. Slept for the night at Mrs. Soane's, but as she had none but the parlours vacant, resolved to change my quarters on the morrow.

8th. Heaps of proofs from Longmans'. Corrected some. Moved to 19, Bury Street. Dined at the Athenæum, Lord Stowel and the Chief Baron dining at a table near me. Lord Blessington, whom I called upon in the morning, came in; had been to my lodging; asked me to dinner to-morrow.

9th. At work. Dined at Lord B.'s: company, Gen. d'Orsay and his aide-de-camp, who are travelling with Lord Blessington, and Powell (the Queen's); dull enough. In the evening the Speaker came. Talked of the mistakes of English people in French. The speaker said that Lord W.—'s French for "never mind" was "*jamais esprit*." Said also, that when he asked Lord Westmoreland, in Paris, whether he meant to go on to Italy, Lord W. said, "No, no, I have had enough of the *sea* already." This is too bad even for Lord W.—.

11th. Got out at three. Called upon Burgess: told him of the scrape he was near getting me into by giving me a copy of a letter as Brinsley Sheridan's that was written by his brother Charles; luckily it was so puzzling in its dates and circumstances, that it set me on inquiry before I ventured to make use of it. Promised to give me the answers of Lords Grey and Grenville to the address of the Houses in 1811. Asked him to go with me and dine at the Longmans' to-morrow. Got down to the Charter House to dinner at a little after five. Only old Barber, L., and my-

self. Went to the Haymarket in the evening; dull enough. Read the papers at the Club, and in bed at one. Have got two letters from my darling Bessy since I came; says she is better. Had taken greatly to the Kenmares, with whom she was going about a little.

12th. Out for about an hour: went to see the Living Skeleton. Burgess called on me before six. Walked to Paternoster Row: company, Surgeon Thompson, Mr. Mills, Col. Hawker, &c. &c. A curious circumstance mentioned, that it was a Scotchman drew up the charter of the Bank of England, and introduced the rule that no Scotchman should be a director; knowing that if but one was admitted, all the rest would be Scotchmen too. Talked of sculpture. Singular that the ancients, with their imperfect knowledge of anatomy, should have represented the muscles in action so correctly, and even better than the moderns: seems as if this knowledge was unnecessary to a sculptor. The Apollo (Surgeon T. said) has no one part of him formed like a man, so that the artist gained his object of creating something quite unlike a human creature, yet producing the effect of most perfect and divine beauty. C. H. afterwards. Had a letter this morning from Walter Scott, in answer to one I wrote him before I left home, expressing my regret at not being in my own green land to welcome him, and saying how I envied those who would have the glory of showing him and Killarney to each other, there being no two of nature's productions so worthy of meeting.

13th. Went out at three to call upon Burgess, who showed me some very curious papers indeed, particularly a letter, written for the Prince by Sheridan, after the dismissal of the Whig ministry in 1806, explaining all the motives and feelings that then actuated him. The letter appears to have been written in consequence of some [left unfinished]. Dined at Lord Blessington's: company, the Speaker, Comte d'Orsay, and his aide-de-camp. The Speaker gave us an account of the new commission established for examining and publishing the documents in the State Paper Office; it appears there is a regular history from the time of Henry VIII.

14th. Called upon Burgess, who still keeps me in suspense as to giving those papers. Said he thought he might venture to let me have the letter of the Prince, but must consult a

gentleman with whom he was to dine to-day: a sad shuffler. When I told him that I had no longer any interest about the work further than my anxiety for its fame went, having got all I was to get for it long ago, and spent it, he said he should stipulate with the Longmans that his contributions of these three papers should be repaid, in some shape, to me. Begged him to do no such thing, at least for me, as I had no right to claim anything more from them. Called upon one of my poetesses, Miss —, and Miss R. Dined alone at the Club, and went to sup with Power.

15th. Called upon Burgess. His friend has advised him not to give me more than one of the letters: this is a sad disappointment to me. Dined at Holland House: company, Adair, Wishaw, Mr. Warburton, Mr. Hackett, Lord Affleck, &c. &c. Story of Lord W—— saying in one of his speeches, "I ask myself so and so," and repeating the words, "I ask myself." "Yes," said Lord Ellenborough, "and a damned foolish answer you'll get." Frere's beautiful saying, that, "Next to an old friend, the best thing is an old enemy." In the evening Warburton pointed out to me a remark in a work just published upon "Political Economy," that one thing cannot be said to have value without relation to some other thing, no more than one object can be said to have distance without reference to some other. This is the great mistake Smith, Malthus, &c. &c. have made in endeavouring to find something of *fixed* value, whereas no such thing exists. Some have taken *corn* for the standard, some *labour*, and some (by a strange sort of abstraction) a mean between labour and corn. Rogers arrived after dinner. In talking of Rose's *Ariosto* mentioned an odd phrase he uses of a lady "voiding a saddle," *roto*. In going to bed, Lord H. took me into his room to show me some passages we had been talking of before dinner, relative to the knowledge which the ancients had of hawking. His own remarks upon a passage in the "Odyssey," where a simile is used about the suitors, which he thinks *does* describe hawking. All depends, however, upon whether the word *νεφέα* in those lines may be taken, in Homeric language, to mean nets. A passage in Aristotle plainly describes hawking.

16th. Lady H. had ordered the carriage to bring me into town early, but I walked, and

Rogers with me, a part of the way. Mentioned Sheridan saying, when there was some proposal to lay a tax upon milestones, that it was unconstitutional, as they were a race that could not meet to remonstrate. Went down to Shoe Lane, thence to Paternoster Row, and made some money arrangements. Thence to the C. H.: stayed an hour. At my lodgings found a letter from dear Bessy, enclosing one from Miss Furness; by which it appears that the latter has had an execution put upon her house, and is obliged to dismiss all her pupils. Bessy has dispatched Hannah to bring our sweet Anastasia to her. Had a letter from the son of Theobald Wolfe Tone, who is about to publish his father's diaries, &c., and wants my assistance. Went to Rogers's: looked over the notes he has from Sheridan. Walked out with him to Holland House: company, Lord and Lady Wm. Russell, Misses Fox and Vernon, Comte de Faux Guyon. A good deal of talk in the evening with Allen: praised Adam Smith's style in his "Theory of Moral Sentiments;" cost him great labour. Hume's, on the contrary, written off easily; great part of his history without any erasure. Went with Lord Holland to his dressing-room, where he read me some remarks of his upon an unpublished pamphlet of Sir Charles Grey, which is meant to prove that Lord Orford (of all people) was the author of Junius. Forgot to mention that last night Lord H. read to me from a manuscript of his own, in several *cahiers*, what I rather suspect to be memoirs of his own times. The part he read to me related to Drury Lane and Lord Byron. There was also mention in it of the latter's verses on the Princess Charlotte, and my parody on the Prince's letter. "Another poet," he said "Mr. Moore, with more of Irish humour than of worldly prudence," &c. This is too bad. Lord Holland himself having been the person who first put it into my head to write that parody! Read me some epigrams and translations of his own, and others. Among the latter, the following on an indefatigable translator, Philemon Holland, publishing a version of Suetonius,—

"Philemon with translations so doth fill us,
He won't let Suetonius be Tranquillus."

Did not leave his room till near two.

17th. Brought in, after breakfast, by Lord

H., who was going to a dentist. Conversation chiefly upon teeth; has suffered from them since he was two or three and twenty, and his present false teeth (three or four in front) the only ones he has felt comfortable with. Has had a tooth fall out while speaking in the House of Lords, which he described as the most dreadful sensation possible. Large mouths, he said, favourable to good teeth, and remarked that that was one of the reasons of my having such "a deneed good set of teeth." Promised to dine again with them to-morrow, but found a note to say that Bishop had fixed to meet me at Power's. Received a letter from Lord Essex, "renewing his solicitations" for me to come to Cashiobury. Dined at the Club. Some talk with Lord Nugent. Met Bailey, and went to the Lyceum with him: the opera of "Tarare." Went behind the scenes, and was introduced to Miss Paton. The Burglars in the next box to us; went in, and had a good deal of conversation.

18th. Did not get out till near Power's dinner hour. Bishop mentioned a thing Poole told him of his travelling with a Yankee from Paris to Dover, who did not open his mouth the whole time, till, on their leaving Dover, he said, "What an extraordinary coincidence! I declare yonder's a 'Prospect Place,' and there's a 'Prospect Place' also at Philadelphly." In the evening went over the whole of the new number of "National Melodies" with Bishop, who thinks them the best of any yet. Sung also my own two glees with him, "Ship, ahoy!" and the "Watchman," which he likes very much. Met L. in Bury Street. Wrote to Lord Essex, to say I should come this day week.

19th. In walking, to my great surprise, met Lord Lansdowne; he and she arrived last night in consequence of the illness of Lady Charlotte Lemon. Walked with him home. Dined at Paternoster Row; took Baily with me. Company, Merivale, Christie, Power, &c. &c. Afterwards to the C. H.

20th. Went out early. Called on the Princess de Polignac. Thence to Shoe Lane to make some arrangements with the printers. Dined alone at the Club. Went for an hour to the Cobourg Theatre: wretched stuff.

21st. Met Lord Lansdowne, and walked a little with him: mentioned the *Retrospective*

Review as latterly very well done; and was anxious I should find out for him who were the authors of it. Spoke of an article in it on the Catholic Mass, in which I am mentioned, he said, "in the way I deserved to be." They quoted my lines "From the Irish Peasant to his Mistress," to show with what charms persecution may invest even the worst superstition. "They take you," he said, "for a Catholic;" I answered they had but too much right to do so. We then talked of the last stretch of fanaticism in Charles X., in putting all France under the protection of the Virgin, *Tout au blanc*; shops and all France dressed in white! Dined at Holland House. My Lady not very well; summoned me to sit next her. Wishaw, Adair, &c. Told ghost stories in the evening. The lady haunted by the large *hat* always near her; had been faithless to her lover. They seemed to like very much my story of the young man climbing up to the window to look at his father dying: Lord H. said it would do for a poem. In talking at dinner of the disadvantage of people being brought up to wealth and rank, Lady H. said, "that if she were a fairy, wishing to inflict the greatest mischief upon a child, she would make him abundantly rich, very handsome, with high rank, and have all these advantages to encircle him from the very cradle;" this she pronounced to be an infallible recipe for producing perfect misery; and "in the mean time," she added, "I should have the gratitude of the child's relations for the precious gifts I had endowed him with." This produced discussion and dissent. Lord H. said it depended upon the natural disposition of the person. There were some that would be happy in all situations: "There's Moore," he said, "you couldn't make him miserable even by inflicting a dukedom on him." Lord and Lady Cowper came in the evening. Asked me to come to Panshanger to them. When all the rest went to bed, Lord H. kept me, reading Dryden's "Aurungzebe" to me. Magnificent passages in it; "And with myself keep all the world awake," applicable to Napoleon.

22nd. Off in the morning to town before eight, having been led into this excess by the derangement of my watch. Breakfasted at Hatchett's, in Piccadilly. Called at the Lansdownes', and found that they were to bring me back from Holland House in the evening.

Off to Shoe Lane, after working a little at home. Thence to L. Dined at Holland House: the Lansdownes, Dr. Holland, Adair, Lord Valletort, Lord Gower, &c. The Lansdownes brought me home,

23rd. Worked a little. Called, according to promise, on the Burghershes. Veluti there; afterwards Braham, Hawes, Mercer, &c. Got up some things of Lord B.'s operas very beautifully. Braham's singing at sight remarkable. Veluti's look and manner particularly interesting, but his singing still disagreeable to me. Went afterwards with Sir Andrew — * (one of those many old friends of mine whose name I don't know) and Burghersh to the Academy of Music, where Bochsá made the pupils play for me a fantasia of Beethoven's, where a chorus is introduced after a long instrumental symphony; all admirably executed. An Irish girl, Miss Chancellor, at the pianoforte; a remarkably fine player. Thence to Shoe Lane, with copy. Lord Nugent had called in the morning to beg I would meet him at the Athenæum at half past six; did so. Some talk about a publication of Spanish songs, which he meditates. Thence to dinner at Lady Westmoreland's: company, Lord Gower, Marquis and Marquise Palmella, &c. &c. She, in her strange way, talked of "Captain Rock," which Palmella said he had read at Lisbon, and thought it the most original book he had ever met with. Lady W. said, "that never was there anything to equal it, either in talent or mischief; that it was also the most *heartless* book ever written; and though those who knew me well said I had a great deal of heart, she would judge from this work I had none." All this half addressed to Palmella, and half to me. Sung in the evening. Walked on Waterloo Bridge.

24th. Lord Lansdowne called on me, and left word he was going away to-morrow. Found him at the Travellers' Club, and walked a little with him. Quoted the French proverb, *Si la jeunesse savait, ou si la vieillesse pouvait*. Went to meet Lord Nugent at the Athenæum. Brought in his words to Spanish songs; rather pretty. Amused me a little to think of "Lord George," the young man about town (vide "Twopenny Post-bag") consulting me friendly on the subject of his

poetry. Dined alone at the Athenæum, and thence to the C. H. Walked in the town till late. Had a note to-day from Lord Essex (in which he bids me use Cashiobury "as my villa" during my printing business) desiring I would persuade Barnes to come down with me to-morrow.

25th. Started for Cashiobury in the coach at two; got there at four. Found them driving about: Lady Davy and Young of the party, and joined them. A most lovely and enjoyable place. Some talk with Lord Essex in the evening about Sheridan.

26th. Drove with Lord E. and Lady Davy to call on Lady Elizabeth Whitbread, who was on a visit in the neighbourhood. On our return sung to Lady Davy. She talked much of the Giuccioli whom she knew intimately at Rome. Saw a note in a book of hers which she had lent Lord Byron, in which he said that it was his strong wish to believe that she would continue to love him, but there were three things against it, "she was nineteen, come out of a convent, and a woman." Lord E. asked me to take a drive with him through the grounds, which I most readily accepted; full of beauty. Showed me one or two cottages, and said he had many others to tempt me with, if I would come and live in his neighbourhood. Told me of his having taken Sheridan to Drury Lane, the first and only time he ever set foot in the new theatre, and (according to Lord E.'s account) the last time he ever was out of his house before his death. The actors drank his health in the green-room most flatteringly. Told the anecdote of the Prince pitching Abbé St. Phar (half-brother to the Duke of Orleans) into the water at Newmarket. The Abbé had some method of making the fish lie still by tickling (or some such manoeuvre), and proceeded to exhibit his skill, having first made the Prince and all the rest give their honours that they would not push him into the water. He then bent down to the river or pond, when the P., not being able to resist the temptation, pitched him head over heels into the middle of it. The Abbé was so enraged, that when he got out, he ran after the Prince, and but that the company favoured the escape of the latter, would have treated him rather roughly. The Prince once having applied, in speaking of Sumner (now member for Surrey), a cant phrase he was

* *Barnard* was afterwards inserted.

much in the habit of using, some one told Sumner, who meeting Jack Payne afterwards in the street, said to him, showing a large stick he had in his hand, "Tell your master he had better keep out of my way, as, if I meet him, I shall fell him to the earth." When Fox questioned the Prince about the loan from the Duke of Orleans, and the bonds which the Prince had given for the purpose, the Prince denied most solemnly having ever given any bonds; upon which Fox produced them to him out of his pocket, thus convicting him of a lie to his very face. Errington was the person supposed to have been present at the marriage of the Prince and Mrs. Fitzherbert. When Lord Essex returned once from France, the Prince said to him, "I am told, but cannot believe it, that when at Paris you wear strings to your shoes." "It is very true, sir, and so do the Duke of Orleans, &c., and so will your Royal Highness before six months are over." "No, no, I'll be damned if ever I do such an effeminate thing as that." Story of the P. Attempted once to shoot himself on account of Mrs. Fitzherbert; only fired at the top of the bed, and then punctured himself with a sword in the breast. Lord E. thinks the Queen of France was innocent; so thought Lord Whitworth. If she erred with any one, it was Fersen a Swede, he who assisted in her escape.

27th. Started at eight for town. Dined with Barnes (of the "Times"). A large party: Serjeant Rough and his two daughters, M. Comte (conductor of the *Minerve*) and his wife, a daughter of Say, &c. &c.; rather agreeable. Talked of a variety of topics,—Burke Dryden, Lord Thurlow. Dryden always gives you the idea of being capable of much more than he did. B. quoted a passage of Cicero, where, discussing different methods as more or less musical, of constructing a particular sentence, he decides for concluding it with the word *conprobat*. Where is this?

28th. Dined at Holland House. Forgot, in going out there, to change my long morning coat for an evening one, and had to dine in the former costume, which was not a little disagreeable: company, Rogers and his sister, Rose, Stratford Canning, Palmella, Byng, Fazakerly, &c. Fazakerly mentioned that he had the other day met Lainé, the former Minister of the Interior in Paris, who told him that he

had had a project of getting Captain Rock translated, and adding as an appendix to it, the late reports of the committee on Ireland, but he feared that the attacks on the principle of tithes would render the book obnoxious to the priests, and gave it up.

29th. Walked into town in all the rain early; worked a little; went off to Shoe Lane and to Longmans' to get some money to send Bessy, who means to leave Cheltenham on Friday. Called at the C. H. Returned to Holland House to dinner: Lord Gower and Lady Stanhope of the party. Lord H. gave a good description of a Spanish bull-fight. The *caciatero* is a little fellow who comes and gives the bull the *coup de grace*, after the matador has conquered him; and in Spain, when they hear of an additional physician being called in to some one that is very ill, they call him *caciatero* (?). The splendid thing for the matador is in making the homage of his victory to some fine lady present, to draw his bloody sword over the expensive dress he wears, so as to render it unfit for further use. Lady Stanhope asked me to dinner to-morrow, but engaged.

30th. Started before breakfast. Rogers spied me from his window and joined me as far as the end of Kensington Gardens. Breakfasted at the Athenæum, and home to work. Dined at the Charter House; young Murray came in the evening.

31st. Fixed to dine with Lord Strangford at the Athenæum, in consequence of a note he wrote me yesterday, saying, "Surely as none of your d——d Whig dukes are in town, you could contrive, once in a way, to *tête-à-tête* it with me at the Athenæum." Went to the printer with my proofs. Dinner with Lord S. at seven; a good deal of old fun between us. Told me of Canning's anger at him for not voting for the last Catholic Bill. Mentioned that on some one saying to Peel, about Lawrence's picture of Croker, "You can see the very quiver of his lips;" "Yes," said Peel, "and the arrow coming out of it." Croker himself was telling this to one of his countrymen, who answered, "He meant *Arrah*, coming out of it." Sat together till near ten.

Sept. 1st. Dined at Holland House: company, the Wm. Russells, Lady Davy, &c.; Lord H. not at all in good spirits. I mentioned after dinner Barnes's opinion of Lord Liverpool as one of the cleverest men in the House of

Lords, which brought on a discussion. Lord H. mentioned as curious that political affairs had always prospered best under men who had changed their party; Godolphin, Lord Oxford, Mr. Pitt. I mentioned Mr. Fox, too, as an instance, which he tried not to admit; the short share that Mr. Fox took, when young, in Lord North's politics, not being on subjects that much committed his Whiggism. Sharpe mentioned to me the story of Sheridan and the milestones, and another. Sharpe was complaining of an ugly house built by D'Arblay just near them at Leatherhead, and Sheridan said, "Oh, you know we can easily get rid of that, we can pack it off out of the country under the Alien Act." Lady Holland very anxious for me to give her copies of the "Watchman" and "Ship ahoy!" to take to Paris to Lady Granville, but shall not. Lady Davy brought me home.

2nd. Got out about three. Called upon Miss Furness, who wants her money, and though it is rather hard upon me (as Anastasia has not had more than three months out of the half year) must, I suppose, pay her the whole sum, as she seems much distressed. Several letters from poets to answer; one a Portuguese, who sends me a work of his from Havre, about Camoens, with a fine letter calling me the *ami* and *emule* of Byron. Bessy inclosed me a letter from a Bath schoolmistress, proposing to take Anastasia, and saying that "terms would be a very minor consideration indeed, with the daughter of such a man as Moore."

3rd. Strangford called and sat some time; read me part of a letter from Lady Strangford on his telling her of the day that he and I passed together; "Shall henceforth," she says, "love Moore as much as I have always admired him for having given you one day of happiness." Showed me the extracts he talked of the other night from a MS. book of George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, which the old Lady Jersey had in her possession, and lent him many years ago at Cheltenham. Some very remarkable things in it, which I wrote down when he left me as well as I could recollect them.* Met Warrender while I was out, who

* "I can as little live upon past kindness as the air can be warmed with the sunbeams of yesterday." "A woman, whose mouth is like an old comb, with a few broken teeth, and a great deal of hair and dust about it." "Kisses are like grains of gold or silver, found upon the ground, of no value themselves, but precious, as showing that a mine is

invited me down to his place. Went and paid Miss Furness twenty pounds of her money. The printers have sent me nothing to-day, it being some annual festival with them. Went to Holland House: company, Rogers, Abercrombie, &c. The dinner very amusing from a contest maintained with great spirit and oddity by Lady Holland against Lord H. and Allen (the latter most comically personal and savage) on the subject of Gen. Washington, whom she, with her usual horror of the liberal side of things, depreciates and dislikes. The talent and good humour with which she fought us all highly amusing. In talking of the Game Laws, Rogers said, "If a partridge on arriving in this country, were to ask what are the Game Laws? and somebody would tell him they are laws for the *protection* of game, 'What an excellent country to live in,' the partridge would say, 'where there are so many laws for our protection.'"

4th. * * * Lord H. told at breakfast of the old Lady Albemarle (I think) saying to some one, "You have heard that I have abused you, but it is not true, for I would not take the trouble of talking about you; but if I *had* said anything of you, it would have been that you look like a blackguard of week days, and on Sundays like an apothecary." Lord H. full of an epigram he had just written on Southey, which we all twisted and turned into various shapes, he as happy as a boy during the operation. It was thus at last:—

"Omnibus hoc vitium est cantoribus."

"Our Laureat Bob defrauds the king,
He takes his cash and does not sing:
Yet on he goes, I know not why,
Singing for us who do not buy."*

Walked to Brompton alone. Went to indulge myself with the sight of the house I lived in (in Queen's Elms) the first year I was mar-

near." "That man has not only a long face, but a tedious one." "One can no more judge of the true value of a man by the impression he makes on the public, than we can tell whether the seal was of gold or brass by which the stamp was made." "Men's fame is like their hair, which grows after they are dead, and with just as little use to them." "A sort of anti-blackamoor, every part of her white but her teeth." "A woman whose face was created without the preamble of 'Let there be light!'" "How few, like Danaë, have God and gold together."

* *Aliter*,

"And yet for us, who will not buy,
Goes singing on eternally."

ried. Thence to Mrs. Montgomery's; to town, and back to Holland House to dinner: company, Adam and his two sons, Lord Gower, Adair, Lady Stanhope, &c. Lady S. said she had had a design upon me for the play last night, but that Strangford told her I was gone to Holland House. In the evening, to my great surprise and pleasure, Mrs. Leigh appeared. Could not help looking at her with deep interest; though she can hardly be said to be like Byron, yet she reminds one of him. Was still more pleased, when, evidently at her own request, Lady Stanhope introduced me to her: found her pleasing, though (as I had always heard) nothing above the ordinary run of women. She herself began first to talk of him after some time, by asking me "whether I saw any likeness." I answered, I did; and she said it was with strong fears of being answered "No," that she had asked the question. Talked of different pictures of him. I felt it difficult to keep the tears out of my eyes as I spoke with her. Said she would show me the miniature she thought the best, if I would call upon her. Brought home by Lady Affleck. From this on't too busy to keep my diary regularly.

6th. Dined alone at the Athenæum.

7th. Went to Peel's Coffee-house and looked over the file of the "Morning Post" for 1816, in order to find D. O'Brien's article about Sheridan. Dined at Miss White's: party, Lady Charlotte Bury, Lady Davy, &c. Sung in the evening.

8th. Dined at Mrs. Montgomery's. An old acquaintance of mine (Miss Gore) of the party; likewise the two Montgomerys, Murray, and Lucy. Miss Gore mentioned a Frenchman saying to a party who were speaking English, *Pour l'amour de Dieu, parlez Chrétien*, meaning French. Saw Luttrell this morning. Walked about with him, but he was obliged to go home, not being well. Stayed with him a little while.

9th. Went to Lady Maria Gore's in the evening; Mrs. Beauchere and her daughters.

10th to 12th. Was to have gone down to Sir George Warrender's, but wrote to him on Friday to say I could not. Promised too to go from thence to Lady Stanhope at Lord Carrington's, but this, of course, frustrated too. Thought, however, I might be able to

manage (as being nearer town) a trip to Farquhar's on the 12th, to Rochampton but this likewise I was obliged to decline. Due also at Panshanger and at Lord Nugent's, but the printer's devils say "No." Dined with Rogers at his brother's at Highbury.

13th. Returned home, after walking a little, at five, and worked away at copying out till past seven, when I walked down to Shoe Lane with what I had done, and returned to the Club, where I dined alone at about nine. Dr. Bain's card to-day informs me he is in town; must have some talk with him about Sheridan's last illness, which is the part I am just now correcting for the press: must keep back the sheet till I see him.

14th. A note from Burgess asking me to meet Dr. Bain at dinner with him at five to-morrow. Am engaged to the Knight of Kerry, but as he will not dine till near eight, shall contrive to manage both.

15th. Wrote to Luttrell to Panshanger to make my apology to the Cowpers, having promised to go down there on Saturday, but find I cannot. Let off my dinner with the Knight of Kerry to-day, on account of the death of some friend of his. Felt so low (both from exhaustion of stomach and some melancholy thoughts suggested by my task) that I could not help crying a little. Went with L. and the Montgomerys to the painter's, where she is sitting for her picture: from thence to see the picture of Waterloo in the Park. They left me at Burgess's door, and Burgess having pressed Montgomery to stay for dinner, he did. A good deal of talk about Sheridan, but not many new lights on the subject. Went in the evening to Mrs. Montgomery's.

16th. Did not get out till near four: met Abbot of Dublin: walked with me to Wardour Street, where I wanted to ascertain the name of Sheridan's pawnbroker: kept waiting a good while before I saw Mr. Harrison. Then home to dress, for an early dinner at Mrs. Montgomery's.

17th. Called at Power's on my way to Shoe Lane, and felt such a sinking in my stomach, that I stopped to dine with him.

18th. Called at Mrs. Purvis's: found she was in town, and left word I would dine with her. No one there but the Speaker, who told some amusing anecdotes about himself when a boy. His stopping to dine at Hatchett's on

his way, alone, to school; begging of the waiter to dine with him, and offering to send out for a pineapple to bribe him to do so. Talked of fagging: the horror he has had ever since of the boy to whom he was fag: once bought a horse which he liked very much till he knew that it had last belonged to this man, and then took a dislike to it. Mrs. P. mentioned that in the same way, there has been a deadly feud between Lord Blessington and his fagger all through life; lawsuits, &c. &c. The Speaker told also of the Duke of York's stupidity in reporting Bobus's joke about Vansittart and Hume, "penny wise and pound foolish;" "It was so good, you know," said the Duke, "calling Hume 'pound foolish,' and Van 'penny wise!'" Mentioned Canning's having met Lord Stowell one day on the road with a *turtle* beside him in the carriage which he was taking down to his country house; Canning, a day or two after, said to him, "Wasn't that your *son* that was with you the other day?" I told in return a story of Jekyl's. Sir Ralph Payne begged of Jekyl to take him to see Philip Thicknesse's library, &c., which J., after cautioning him against saying anything to offend Thicknesse's *touchiness*, consented to do. Sir Ralph behaved very well, till, just as they were leaving the house, he saw on the library door the original sketch of the print that is prefixed to Thicknesse's *Travels*, in which Thicknesse is represented in an odd sort of a travelling carriage and his monkey with him. Sir Ralph having asked what it was, Thicknesse said it was a representation of the way in which he travelled on the Continent. "Poor Master Thicknesse," exclaimed Sir R., "he must have been greatly fatigued with the journey." This Sir Ralph, by the by, who was afterwards Lord Lavington, and governor of the Windward Islands, was the person of whom Jekyl told that anecdote about the consulting the Chief Justice, &c.; "the guns will be fired, the bells will be rung, the guards will all turn out," &c. &c. Called on Bessy's mother this morning. Received from Burgess *one* of the letters I was so anxious to get from him (that written by Sheridan to the Prince in 1812, about the exclusion of Lord Grey), which Dr. Bain, I find, persuaded him to let me have: must see to-morrow how I can get it in.

19th. Went pretty early to Shoe Lane, to see about getting Sheridan's letter in. Found

the sheet was not printed off, and inserted part of it. Dined with Rogers at the Athenæum; the first time he ever dined at a club. Went together in the evening to the English Opera, but could get no seats. From thence to the Coburg, where we saw a strange thing: "The Last Days of Napoleon;" where Bertrand and his wife were quietly listened to abusing the perfidy and cruelty of the English towards Napoleon, who was represented throughout in the most amiable light. Left the Coburg soon, and walked home by Waterloo Bridge; a beautiful moonlight night.

20th. Left the last pages of my work at the printer's. Dined at Longmans': company, Abbot, &c. Thence to Miss White's to meet Capt. Lyon and his newly married wife. Sung a good deal, which they seemed to like very much.

21st. Was to have gone with Strangford to Sir George Warrender's to-day, but cannot spare the loss of to-morrow morning. He took Lord Binning with him instead. Went with Abbot, Harry Harris, and Beazeley to dine at Mathews's: company, Mrs. Purvis and her daughter, the Speaker, a Mr. Broderip, Price the American manager, &c. The day very amusing. Mathew's imitation of Coleridge admirable; the "single-mindedness," &c. &c. Sung a good deal. Mathews's Dramatic Gallery very curious; his "Life of Garrick," illustrated, particularly so. Has the first playbill in which Garrick was announced to act, between the acts of a concert, at Goodman's Fields. The French copy of the engravings of Sir J. Reynolds's picture of Garrick between Tragedy and Comedy, is entitled *L'Homme entre le Vice et la Vertu*.

22nd. Took my preface (which I wrote yesterday) to the printer. Dined (I believe) at the Club.

23rd. Felt myself free enough to sally out in the morning, and breakfasted at the Athenæum. Called on the Jerseys; found there Lord Bristol and Agar Ellis: Lord Jersey's face still wrapped up from the late abscess under his ear. Dined at the Speaker's, which *sounds* a greater honour than it *is*: company, much the same as at Mathews's, and the day quite as amusing, with the addition of an admirable *cuisine* and cellar. Speaker very civil; had his levée-rooms and state dining-rooms lighted up in the evening, in order that I might

see them. I mentioned having heard Lord Sidmouth say that the only time his gravity was ever tried in the Chair was once when Brook Watson getting up (on some subject connected with Nootka Sound) said, "Mr. Speaker, it is impossible, at this moment, to look at the north-east, without at the same time casting a glance at the south-west." The Speaker stood this pretty well; but hearing some one behind the Chair say, "By God, no one in the House but Wilkes could do that," he could no longer keep his countenance, but burst into a most undignified laugh. My host, on this, mentioned an occasion, on which he too had not been able to refrain from laughter. The Opposition (as he described it) had been, to his no small amusement, squabbling with one another, and firing into their own ranks, when presently he perceived a large rat issue from under the Opposition benches and walk gravely over to the Treasury side of the House. This, he said, he could not resist. Felt my story to be rather awkward before I was half through it, as the Speaker squints a little. Had music and mummery all the evening, and did not leave this dignified mansion till just two.

24th. Was to have gone with Abbot to Hampton Court to-day, but made my excuse as I wished to see the "Freischütz." Dined with Rees, and both went to Drury Lane.

25th. Went to Paternoster Row, for the purpose of packing up the Sheridan papers for Charles S. and the other persons who had entrusted them to me. Met Luttrell on my way, who asked me to dine with him at seven; did so. Mentioned to me a good rhyme of his:—

"Of diamond, emerald, and topaz,
Such as the charming Mrs. Hope has."

Finished a bottle of *côte rotie*, of Champagne, and of claret with Luttrell, and went from thence to Power's to correct some music.

26th. Corrected my last revises. Took a place in the coach for to-morrow morning, and transacted various little jobs. Dined at the Club. Came home and packed.

27th. Started in the Emerald, and arrived at home at seven.

28th. Dined at home.

29th. Dined at Bowood. The Agar Ellises, Fielding, and Talbot, Mrs. Collingwood, &c. Sung in the evening. Slept there.

30th. Walked home after breakfast, to see Bessy, the boil coming to a head. Returned to Bowood to dinner; the Fazakerleys and Barings in addition to the party. Sung again in the evening. Slept there.

Oct. 1st. Bowles called at Bowood, while I was listening to Mrs. Fazakerley's singing to the guitar. Went down to him; wanted me to dine with him to-day, but told him that Bessy's illness made it impossible for me to stay longer away from her. After luncheon, Lady Lansdowne brought me home in the carriage with Lady G. Ellis and Mrs. Baring. Found Bessy better, and anxious that I should go to Bowles, on account of a nephew of his, who, he said, was to be with him, and could serve our little Tom at Winchester. Packed up fresh things, and set off to catch Lady L. on her return from Bromham. Met her at the corner of Sandy Lane, and went on to Bowood. Walked from thence to Bowles's: company, Mr. and Mrs. Fenwick, Young West, Linley, and a Miss Sotheby, but no nephew! Had a great many glees, duets, &c. in the evening; my singing much liked.

2nd. Looking over the sheets of Bowles's "More last Words" to Roscoe. Having tried in vain to dissuade him from publishing it at all, did my best to get rid of some of the twaddle. Set off to walk home between eleven and twelve: called at Bowood in passing, and saw Lady E. Fielding, who arrived yesterday. Dined at home.

3rd. Dined at Bowood: Fazakerleys, Fieldings, Bowleses, and Sir J. and Lady Campbell.

6th. The newspapers ("Times and Courier") at the breakfast table, full of extracts from the "Life." Fidgeted exceedingly by seeing people reading them, at which they were not a little amused. Entreated Lord Lansdowne to wait till he could read the book itself, which he promised me to do. Returned home. Dined at Money's to meet Linley, the Bowleses, and Campbells.

7th. Did a song for Power to an air of Crescimbeni's, beginning "Fear not, that while around thee." Received a letter from Charles Sheridan full of the warmest admiration and gratitude; a most seasonable relief to my mind, as I have been ever more anxious about his opinion than that of the public.

8th. A triumphant letter from Longmans',

congratulating me on the perfect success of the work, saying that, from the state of the sale, they must go to press with an octavo edition on Monday, and desiring me to send up the corrected copy by to-morrow night's mail. They also add that, from the extent to which I had carried the work, and its success, they felt called upon to place to my credit 300*l.* more than the sum originally stipulated to be paid for it. A letter likewise from Lord John, in which he says he has read some of my book, and the extracts in the "Times," and thinks it "very much what it ought to be." Have made up my mind to take a run to Paris, Lord John having offered to take me there, and Lord Lansdowne having invited me to take up my quarters with him, while there. Looked over the *Life*, having time only for verbal corrections.

9th. Went to church with Bessy and Mrs. Branigan, who arrived here on Thursday. Sent off the corrected copy in the evening.

10th. Walked over to Lord Lansdowne, who was much delighted with Longmans' and C. Sheridan's letters, which I had sent him. The Longmans had mentioned in theirs, that Henry Grattan had been with them, and seemed much disposed to put his materials for the *Life* of his father into my hands, but they said I must not do it till after the *Life* of Lord Byron. Lord Lansdowne much amused by the custom for *Lives* I was likely to have. I said I had better publish *nine* together in one volume, and call it "The Cat." Walked the greater part of the way home with me.

12th. A letter from Lord John, saying he had read but little of my book when he wrote before, but that now he had got through two-thirds of it; and "I confess," he says, "I am all astonishment at the extent of your knowledge, the soundness of your political views, and the skill with which you contrive to keep clear of tiresomeness, when the subject seems to invite it." "Your wit and fancy," he adds, "we all knew before; and the latter is, as usual, perhaps a little in excess, but it is always so beautiful that we could not wish it to be other than it is." He says in a postscript, "I dined at Wimbledon yesterday, and all the Spensers sung chorus in praise of your book." This last circumstance gives me a good deal of pleasure, as I feared Lord Spenser would rather resent my remarks on him and the other Whig alarmists. Lord John has changed his

mind about Paris, and will not go till Spring. Sent his letter to Lord L., and said that his change of mind would make no difference to my intentions.

12th. A note from Lord Lansdowne, who starts with Lady L. on his way to Paris to-day.

13th. Receive every morning letters about the *Life*; one full of praise from Elwyn, another from Scott (of Devizes), and second from Lord John, relative to the remarks upon the funeral, which I foresaw would produce uneasiness in many quarters. Tells me the Duke had lent Sheridan 200*l.* before his illness, and attended the funeral by Mrs. S.'s invitation; says this was probably the case with many.

14th. Set off for Bath to dine at the mayor's great dinner; Mrs. Branigan and Mrs. Phipps went with me. Went with Elwyn to the dinner, and got well seated: 270 persons at the dinner, Lord Camden, Lord John Thynne, &c. &c. When my health was given from the Chair, I saw a speech was expected from me, and I had thought of some things to say, but as none of the great guns had gone beyond a simple return of thanks, I was resolved that neither would I; so merely said, that after the brief manner the distinguished persons whose healths were already drunk had returned their thanks, it would ill become so humble an individual as myself to trespass further on their time and attention than merely to say that I felt very deeply, &c. &c. This was the best thing to do, but I saw it disappointed them. Left at ten, and went home with Elwyn. He mentioned a good Italian squib on the Neapolitan revolution, as follows,—

LETTER FROM A CORPORAL IN THE PATRIOTIC
NEAPOLITAN ARMY, AFTER ITS DEFEAT
AND DISPERSION.

Puleinello, mal contento
Disertor dal Regimento,
Serve a Mama a Benevento,
Della Patria il triste evento.
Movimento, Parlamento,
Giuramento, Squarciamento,
Gran Fermento, poco Argento,
Armamento, e nel cimento,
(Mene pento, mene pento)
Fra spavento e tradimento
Siam fuggiti come il vento
Mama mia, Mama bella
Prega Dio per Puleinella.

Slept at Elwyn's.

15th. Bowles brought me back as far as Buckhill, where I eat a couple of cutlets, and walked home afterwards.

16th. A letter from the Longmans to say that they have sold every copy of the first 1000, and that the octavo will not be ready for two or three weeks. Take for granted, therefore, that there is a second quarto edition. Much inclined to give up my Paris trip for various reasons; the expense, Bessy's health, the idleness, and one or two more things.

17th. Bessy would not hear of my staying at home: insisted that if I did not go to France, that I must go either to Scotland or Ireland, to amuse myself a little. Dear, generous girl, there never was any thing like her for warmth of heartedness and devotion. I shall certainly do no good at home, from the daily fidget I am kept in about my book. So perhaps an excursion somewhere, merely to change the current of my thoughts, would be of use.

18th. Mean to set off to town on Thursday (as I had promised Power to meet Bishop there on musical business), and then afterwards, perhaps, to Derbyshire and Scotland!

19th. More letters about the book. One from Barnes (of the *Times*) full of the most enthusiastic praise.

20th. Had a chaise to Buckhill at seven in the morning; Bessy and Mrs. Branigan with me. The two first coaches full; got a seat in the Regulator. Read my old French newspapers all the way: the following in them:—"Since that time, as Scarron says, *La Parque a diablement filé*." Louis XIV. said to Molière, on his producing the "Bourgeois Gentilhomme," "*Je n'ai demandé qu'un ballet, et vous m'avez donné une bonne comédie*." Got to Power's at nine: found that they had a friend staying with them, so would not sleep there, as I had promised (though they had everything ready for me), but took up my quarters in Duke Street.

21st. Called on Lady Donegal; found her only at home. Talked of the "Life:" has not read it herself, but mentioned different opinions she had heard, and all praise. Told me an anecdote of the Prince when a very young man, having gone disguised to Lord Donegal's house to leave 1000*l.* for Lord Spencer Hamilton, who was in fear of an arrest for debt. Said he had lately, too, sent 1000*l.* to Edward Boviere when he was dying. Called at Lord John's; he is at Woburne. Carpenter told me that he had heard nothing but praise of my book; but

that he was told the Whigs were in a rage at it. Wrote to Lord Lansdowne to Paris, to tell him I had changed my mind, and would not come there: have almost resolved to go to Scotland to see Sir Walter Scott. Dined at Power's; party Rees, Bishop, and Millikin of Dublin. Rees all delight at the success of the book: could have sold another edition of quarto if he had had them ready: not a copy to be got for these several days past, and the octavo will not be ready for a week: is negotiating with Charles Sheridan to buy him out of his stipulated share of the work. Latham this morning made me a present of a German translation of "Captain Rock."

22nd. Went at eleven with Power to Bishop, in order to look over with him a couple of glees and a single song I have done. One of the glees convivial, having "Hip, hip, hurra!" for the burden. Bishop thought the melody too elegant for this purpose; so shall put other words to it. Called upon the Donegals; dined at the Longmans'. Nearly the whole of the second edition is already disposed of; and they are laying in paper for a third. Decided to go to Scotland: despatched a messenger to have my place taken in the York Mail for Monday night. Went to the Adelphi with Rees and Millikin.

23rd. Tegart called, and stayed some time, praising my book. Went out: called upon Denman: asked me had I heard of Lady Holland's triumph. There are some chambers in the Tuileries which are never shown to strangers; accordingly Lady H. has long set her heart on seeing them. During Louis XVIII.'s time she was always told, in answer to her application, that such a thing was *non nominandum*; now, however, it appears on her returning to the charge, the answer has been, that there is no door or gate of the Tuileries that was not open to Lady Holland. Bought a copy of a low Sunday paper, in which I had the pleasure of finding myself abused in all the flowers of Billingsgate; this "vile little fellow," this "filthy little fellow," &c. &c. Called at Knight of Kerry's; saw Mrs. Fitzgerald. Dined at Lady Donegal's: only the Knight of Kerry; a very agreeable evening. Fitzgerald told some curious anecdotes of Grattan. Called this morning at Mrs. Purvis's, and sat some time with her and the Speaker.

24th. Went to Power's: signed a renewed deed between us, the other having expired this last year. Went to Bishop's, to look over the things that have been done for the Greek work. After our singing together his glee, "To Greece we give our shining blades," he turned exultingly to Power, and said, "That's worth one thousand pounds." Presently we tried over my glee, "Here, while the moon-light dim," and he said, "That's worth five hundred." Called upon Lady Donegal; walked with Barbara and Miss Godfrey. Packed up and took my luggage to the Longmans', who sent it off immediately to the mail office. Dined with them: nothing could exceed their attention: gave me letters of credit on York and Edinburgh. Green saw me to the mail. Kenny, at dinner, mentioned that Washington Irving, he thinks, is becoming independent of literature by the profits he derives from the Rouen steamboats, in which he is partner with his brother. Started in the mail at eight: two lively and (as far as the darkness would allow me to judge) good-looking girls my companions, who had just returned from a trip of four days to Calais with *Pa* (who was outside), and two or three more friends. As full of France as if they had been there for years: a good deal of laugh and talk, till all grew sleepy; and at three in the morning we parted company.

25th. Arrived at Stamford, where I breakfasted, between six and seven; got to York between eight and nine at night.

26th. As soon as I was breakfasted, &c. called with my letter of introduction from the Longmans on Mr. Wilson, who attended me and an unknown acquaintance of mine that I picked up in the mail, to the minster. Much as I had heard of this glorious piece of architecture, it went beyond my expectations. Among the curiosities, the bowl given by Archbishop Scroope, with an inscription round it purporting that every one who drank out of it should have forty days' indulgence. Went to see the new concert room; walked on the walls; had also gone to the top of the minster, which was no small trial to our legs. Before I started from town I wrote a letter to Sydney Smith (as I did also to Sir Walter Scott), saying I should call on him on my way. On my arrival at York last night, found he was at Mr. Yorke's (formerly Mr. Sheepshanks, who chan-

ged his name on marrying Lord Harewood's sister), and immediately despatched a letter to him by post, saying how I regretted he was not at home. Fixed to dine with old Mr. Wilson at Fulford, two miles from York. On returning home found a letter from Sydney Smith, saying that Mr. and Lady Mary Yorke were most anxious that I should come out there; but though I should not mind any distance to see him in his own house, it was not worth the time and expense to see him in another person's, so wrote an apology. Col. Thornhill (of the 7th hussars), who commands at York, was the bearer of the note to me. Among the company at Fulford was Mrs. John Kemble. She mentioned an anecdote of Piozzi, who on calling once upon some old lady of quality, was told by the servant "she was indifferent." "Is she indeed?" answered Piozzi huffishly, "then pray tell her I can be as indifferent as she," and walked away. The day deplorably common-place. Found a letter from Col. Thornhill on my return home, begging me to make use of his horses and carriages, &c. for my "locomotive adventures" during my stay at York. Wrote him a letter of thanks; am not aware that I know Col. Thornhill.

27th. Started in the coach for Newcastle at a quarter before nine; a young man in the coach, who was an intimate of Lockhart (Scott's son-in-law), and told me a good deal about them. Got a wretched bed at Newcastle; took my place in the Wellington for Kelso.

28th. Up before five and started for Kelso; another young man in the coach who knew the Scotts. Mentioned the application made in one of the Scotch colleges of the motto of the city of Edinburgh, *Nisi Dominus frustra*. Unless you are a lord you cannot get on here. Arrived at Kelso at a quarter to five; the passengers, who had found me out, full of kindness at parting with me. Walked before I dined to the bridge, past the ruins of Kelso Abbey, and on, by the side of the Tweed, to another bridge opposite Sir John Douglas's gate. The evening delicious: slept at Kelso; an excellent inn.

29th. Set off between eleven and twelve in a chaise for Sir Walter Scott's. Stopped on the way too see Dryburgh Abbey on the grounds of Lord Buchan. The vault of Sir

Walter Scott's family is here. Lord Buchan's own tombstone ready placed, with a Latin inscription by himself on it, and a cast from his face let into the stone. Forded the Tweed below the chain bridge, and passed through Melrose, having a peep at the abbey on my way, but reserving my view of it till I could see it with Scott himself. Arrived at his house about two. His reception of me most hearty; we had met but once before, so long ago as immediately after his publication of the "Lay of the Last Minstrel." After presenting me to Lady Scott and his daughter Anne (the Lockharts having, unluckily, just gone to Edinburgh), he and I started for a walk. Said how much he was delighted with Ireland; the fun of the common people. The postilion having run the pole against the corner of a wall and broken it down, crying out, "Well done pole! didn't the pole do it elegantly, your honour?" Pointing to the opposite bank of the river, said it was believed still by some of the common people that the fairies danced in that spot; and as a proof of it, mentioned a fellow having declared before him, in his judicial capacity, that having gone to pen his sheep about sunrise, in a field two or three miles further down the river, he had seen little men and women under a hedge, beautifully dressed in green and gold; "the Duke of Buccleugh in full dress was nothing to them." "Did you, by the virtue of your oath, believe them to be fairies?" "I dinna ken; they looked very like the gude people" (evidently believing them to be fairies). The fact was, however, that these fairies were puppets belonging to an itinerant showman, which some weavers, in a drunken frolic, had taken a fancy to and robbed him of, but, fearing the consequences when sober, had thrown them under a hedge, where this fellow saw them. In talking of the commonness of poetical talent just now, he said we were like Captain Bobadil, who had taught the fellows to [A blank left in the MS. The passage referred to is probably in Act 4, sc. 2 (Every Man in his Humour): "I would teach these nineteens the special rules, as your punta, your reverso, . . . till they could all play very near, or altogether as well, as myself."]

When I remarked that every magazine now contained such poetry as would have made a reputation for a man some twenty or thirty

years ago, he said (with much shrewd humour in his face), "Ecce, we were in the luck of it, to come before all this talent was at work." Agreed with me that it would be some time before a great literary reputation could be again called up, "unless (he added) something new could be struck out; everything that succeeded lately owing its success, in a great degree, to its novelty." Talked a good deal about Byron; thinks his last cantos of *Don Juan* the most powerful things he ever wrote. Talking of the report of Lady Byron being about to marry Cunningham, said he would not believe it. "No, no, she must never let another man bear the name of husband to her." In talking of my sacrifice of the *Memoirs*, said he was well aware of the honourable feelings that dictated it, but doubted whether he would himself have consented to it. On my representing, however, the strong circumstances of not only the sister of Lord Byron (whom he so much loved) requiring it, but his two most intimate friends, Kinnaird and Hobhouse, also insisting earnestly upon the total destruction of the MS., and the latter assuring me that Lord Byron had expressed to him regret for having put such a work out of his own power, and had said that he was only restrained by delicacy towards me from recalling it; when I mentioned these circumstances (and particularly the last), he seemed to feel I could not have done otherwise than I had done. Thought the family, however, bound to furnish me every assistance towards a *Life of Lord B.* I spoke of the advantage of Scotland over Ireland in her national recollections, in which he agreed and remarked the good luck of Scotland, in at last giving a king to England. In the spirit of this superiority he had himself insisted, in all the ceremonials attending the king's reception in Scotland, that England should yield the precedence: there had been some little tiffs about it, but the king himself had agreed readily to everything proposed to him. In talking of Ireland, said that he and Lockhart had gone there rather hostilely disposed towards the Catholic Emancipation, but that they had both returned converts to the necessity of conceding it. Dined at half-past five; none but himself, a young clergyman, quite deaf, who is making a catalogue of his library, Lady Scott and daughter, and a boy, the son of his lost friend Sir — Erskine.

After dinner pledged him in some whiskey out of a *quaigh*; that which I drank out of very curious and beautiful. Produced several others; one that belonged to Prince Charles, with a glass bottom; others of a larger size, out of which he said his great grandfather drank. Very interesting *tête-à-tête* with him after dinner. Said that the person who first set him upon trying his talent at poetry was Mat. Lewis. He had passed the early part of his life with a set of clever, rattling, drinking fellows, whose thoughts and talents lay wholly out of the region of poetry; he, therefore, had never been led to find out his turn for it, though always fond of the old ballads. In the course of the conversation he, at last (to my no small surprise and pleasure), mentioned the novels without the least reserve as his own; "I then hit upon these novels (he said), which have been a mine of wealth to me." Had begun *Waverley* long before, and then thrown it by, till, having occasion for some money (to help his brother, I think), he bethought himself of it, but could not find the MS.; nor was it till he came to Abbotsford that he at last stumbled upon it. By this he made 3000*l.* The conjectures and mystification at first amused him very much: wonders himself that the secret was so well kept, as about twenty persons knew it from the first. The story of Jeanie Deans founded upon an anonymous letter which he received; has never known from whom. The circumstance of the girl having refused the testimony in court, and then taking the journey to obtain her sister's pardon, is a fact. Received some hints also from Lady Louisa Stuart (granddaughter, I believe, to Lord Bute); these the only aids afforded to him. His only critic was the printer, who was in the secret, and who now and then started objections which he generally attended to. Had always been in the habit (while wandering alone or shooting) of forming stories and following a train of adventures in his mind, and these fancies it was that formed the groundwork of most of his novels. "I find I fail in them now, however (he said); I cannot make them as good as at first." He is now near fifty-seven; has no knowledge or feeling of music; knows nothing of Greek; indebted to Pope for even his knowledge of Homer. Spoke of the scrape he got into by the false quantity in his Latin epitaph on his dog. I

said that his letter on the subject was worth all the prosody that ever existed, and so it is; nothing was ever in better or more manly taste. In the evening Miss Scott sung two old Scotch songs to the harp. He spoke of Mrs. Lockhart (whom he seems thoroughly to love) as richer in this style of songs than Miss Scott. I then sung several things which he seemed to like. Spoke of my happy power of adapting words to music, which, he said, he never could attain, nor could Byron either. Story of the beggar: "Give that man some halfpence and send him away;" "I never go away under sixpence." Spoke of the powers of all Irishmen for oratory; the Scotch, on the contrary, cannot speak; no Scotch orator can be named; no Scotch actors. Told me Lockhart was about to undertake the *Quarterly*, has agreed for five years; salary 1200*l.* a-year, and if he writes a certain number of articles it will be 1500*l.* a-year to him. Spoke of Wordsworth's absurd vanity about his own poetry; the more remarkable as Wordsworth seems otherwise a manly fellow. Story told him by Wordsworth, of Sir George Beaumont saying one day to Crabbe, at Murray's, on Crabbe putting an extinguisher on a tallow candle which had been imperfectly put out, and the smoke of which was (as Sir G. Beaumont said) curling up in graceful wreaths, "What, you a poet, and do that?" This Wordsworth told Scott was a set-off against the latter's praises of Crabbe, and as containing his own feelings on the subject, as well as Sir G. Beaumont's. What wretched twaddle! Described Wordsworth's manly endurance of his poverty. Scott has dined with him at that time in his kitchen; but though a kitchen, all was neatness in it. Spoke of Campbell; praised his *Hohenlinden*, &c.; considered his "*Pleasures of Hope*" as very inferior to these lesser pieces. Talked of Holt, the Wicklow brigand, who held out so long in the mountains, and who distinguished himself on many occasions by great generosity; once or twice gave up men who had been guilty of acts of cruelty; is still alive, keeping (I believe) a public house, and in good repute for quietness. Sir Walter Scott had wished much to have some talk with him, but feared it might do the man harm, by giving him high notions of himself, &c. &c. "I could have put," says he, "a thousand pounds in his pocket, by getting him to tell simply the adventures

in which he had been engaged, and then dressing them up for him." In speaking of the circumstances in which my intimacy with Byron began, and giving him an account of the message from Greville that followed, he spoke as if the thought had occurred to him at that time, whether he ought not himself to have taken notice, in the same manner, of what Byron had said to him.

30th. A very stormy day. Sir W. impatient to take me out to walk, though the ladies said we should be sure of a ducking. At last a tolerably fair moment came, and we started; he would not take a great coat. Had explained to me after breakfast, the drawings in the breakfast room, done by an amateur at Edinburgh, W. Sharpe, and alluding to traditions of the Scotts of Harden, Sir Walter's ancestors. The subject of one of them was the circumstance of a young man of the family being taken prisoner in an incursion on the grounds of a neighbouring chief, who gave him his choice, whether he should be hanged or marry his daughter "muckle-mouthed Meg." The sketch represents the young man as hesitating; a priest advising him to the marriage, and pointing to the gallows on a distant hill, while Meg herself is stretching her wide mouth in joyful anticipation of a decision in her favour. The other sketch is founded on the old custom of giving a hint to the guests that the last of the beeves had been devoured, by serving up nothing but a pair of spurs under one of the covers; the dismay of the party at the uncovering of the dish, is cleverly expressed. Our walk was to the cottage of W. Laidlaw, his bailiff, a man who had been reduced from better circumstances, and of whom Scott spoke with much respect as a person every way estimable. His intention was, he said, to ask him to walk down and dine with us to-day. The cottage and the mistress of it very homely, but the man himself, with his broad Scotch dialect, showing the quiet self-possession of a man of good sense. The storm grew violent, and we sat some time. Scott said he could enumerate thirty places, famous in Scottish song, that could be pointed out from a hill in his neighbourhood: Yarrow, Ettrick, Gala Water, Bush-aloon, Traquair, Selkirk ("Up with the souters of Selkirk"), the bonny Cowden Knowes, &c. &c. Mentioned that the Duke of Wellington had once wept, in speak-

ing to him about Waterloo, saying that "the next dreadful thing to a battle lost was a battle won." Company to dinner, Sir Adam Ferguson (an old schoolfellow and friend of Scott), his lady, and Col. Ferguson. Drove out Sir Adam (as he had promised me he would) to tell some of his military stories, which were very amusing. Talked of amateurs in battles; the Duke of Richmond at Waterloo, &c. &c.; the little regard that is had of them. A story of one who had volunteered with a friend of his to the bombardment of Copenhagen, and after a severe cannonade, when a sergeant of marines came to report the loss, he said (after mentioning Jack This and Tom That, who had been killed), "Oh, please your Honour, I forgot to say that the volunteer gentleman has had his head shot off." Scott mentioned as a curious circumstance that, at the same moment, the Duke of Wellington should have been living in one of Buonaparte's palaces, and Buonaparte in the Duke's old lodgings at St. Helena; had heard the Duke say laughingly to some one who asked what commands he had to St. Helena, "Only tell Bony that I hope he finds my old lodgings at Longwood as comfortable as I find his in the Champs Elysées." Mentioned the story upon which the Scotch song of "Dainty Davie," was founded. Talking of ghosts, Sir Adam said that Scott and he had seen one, at least, while they were once drinking together; a very hideous fellow appeared suddenly between them whom neither knew anything about, but whom both saw. Scott did not deny it, but said they were both "fou," and not very capable of judging whether it was a ghost or not. Scott said the only two men, who had ever told him that they had actually seen a ghost, afterwards put an end to themselves. One was Lord Castlereagh, who had himself mentioned to Scott his seeing the "radiant-boy." It was one night when he was in barracks, and the face brightened gradually out of the fireplace, and approached him. Lord Castlereagh stepped forwards to it, and it receded again, and faded into the same place. It is generally stated to have been an apparition attached to the family, and coming occasionally to presage honours and prosperity to him before whom it appeared, but Lord Castlereagh gave no such account of it to Scott. It was the Duke of Wellington made Lord Castlereagh tell the story to Sir

Walter, and Lord C. told it without hesitation, and as if believing in it implicitly. Told of the Provost of Edinburgh showing the curiosities of that city to the Persian ambassador; impatience of the latter, and the stammering hesitation of the former. "Many pillar, wood pillar? stone pillar, eh?" "Ba-ba-ba-ba," stammered the Provost. "Ah, you not know, var well. Many book here: write book? print book, eh?" "Ba-ba-ba-ba." "Ah, you not know; var well." A few days after, on seeing the Provost pass his lodgings, threw up the window and cried, "Ah, how you do?" "Ba-ba-ba." "Ah, you not know; var well;" and shut down the window. Account of the meeting between Adam Smith and Johnson as given by Smith himself. Johnson began by attacking Hume. "I saw (said Smith) this was meant at me, so I merely put him right as to a matter of fact." "Well, what did he say?" "He said it was a lie." "And what did you say to that?" "I told him he was a son of a b—h." Good this, between two sages. Boswell's father indignant at his son's attaching himself (as he said) to "a Dominie, who kippit a schule, and ca'd it an academy." Some doubts, after dinner, whether we should have any singing, it being Sunday. Miss Scott seemed to think the rule might be infringed in my case; but Scott settled the matter more decorously, by asking the Fergusons to come again to dinner next day, and to bring the Misses Ferguson.

"31st. Set off after breakfast, Scott, Miss Scott, and I, to go to Melrose Abbey. Told him I had had a strong idea of coming on as far as Melrose from Kelso on Friday night, in order to see the Abbey by the beautiful moonlight we had then; but that I thought it still better to reserve myself for the chance of seeing it with him, though I had heard he was not fond now of showing it. He answered, that in general he was not; but that I was, of course, an exception. I think it was on this morning that he said, laying his hand cordially on my breast, "Now, my dear Moore, we are friends for life." Forgot to mention that, in the answer which he sent to me to Newcastlesford, he offered, if I would let him know when I should reach Kelso, to come for me there in his carriage; nothing, indeed, could be more kind and cordial than the whole of his recep-

tion of me. Explained to me all the parts of the abbey, assisted by the sexton, a shrewd, hardy-mannered fellow, who seemed to have studied every thing relating to it *con amore*. Went up to a room in the sexton's house, which was filled with casts, done by himself, from the ornaments, heads, &c. of the abbey. Scott, seeing a large niche empty, said, "Johnny, I'll give you the Virgin and Child to put there." Seldom have I seen a happier face than Johnny exhibited at this news; it was all over smiles. As we went down stairs, Scott said to him, "Johnny, if there's another anti-popish rising, you'll have your house pulled about your ears." When we got into the carriage, I said, "You have made that man very happy." "Good (said Sir Walter), then there are two of us pleased, for I did not know what to do with that Virgin and Child. Mamma (Lady Scott) will be particularly glad to get rid of it." A less natural man would have left me under the impression that he had done really a very generous thing. Sir W. bought one of the books giving a description of the abbey (written every word of it by the sexton), and presented it to me. Went from thence to the cottage of the Lockharts, which is very retired and pretty; and then proceeded to pay a visit to the Fergusons just near. Could not help thinking, during this quiet, homely visit, how astonished some of those foreigners would be, to whom the name of Sir Walter Scott is encircled with so much romance, to see the plain, quiet, neighbourly manner with which he took his seat among these old maids, and the familiar ease with which they treated him in return; no country squire, with but half an idea in his head, could have fallen into the gossip of a hum-drum country visit more unassumingly. This is charming. Left Miss Scott to proceed home in the carriage; and he and I walked. Took me through a wild and pretty glen called "Thomas the Rhymer's Glen." Told me of his introduction to the Prince by Adam; their whole talk about the Pretender. The Prince asked him, would he have joined the Jacobites; "it would have been wretched taste of me (said Scott) to have said I would, and I merely answered that I should have, at least, wanted one motive against doing so in not knowing his Royal Highness." Adam said afterwards, that the only difference as to Jacobitism between him

and the Prince, during the conversation, was, that the Prince always said "the Pretender;" and Scott said "Prince Charles." Mentioned that when Buonaparte expressed himself shocked at the murder of the Emperor Paul, Fouché said, "*Mais, Sire, c'est une espèce de destitution propre à ce pays-là.*" On my taking this opportunity of saying that I doubted whether I ought to allude to a work which it was supposed he was writing, "The Life of Buonaparte," he said that it was true, and that he had already finished, I think, more than a volume of it, but had now suspended his task for the purpose of writing a novel on the subject of the "Civil Wars," in which he expected to make something of the character of Cromwell, whose politics he certainly did not like, but in whom there were some noble points which he should like to throw light on. It gave me pleasure to find that some of the views he expressed of the character of Napoleon were liberal; talked with scorn of the wretched attempts to decry his courage. I said how well calculated the way in which Scott had been brought up was to make a writer of poetry and romance, as it combined all that knowledge of rural life and rural legends which is to be gained by living among the peasantry and joining in their sports, with all the advantages which an aristocratic education gives. I said that the want of this manly training showed itself in my poetry, which would perhaps have had a far more vigorous character if it had not been for the sort of *boudoir* education I had received. (The only thing indeed, that conduced to brace and invigorate my mind was the strong political feelings that were stirring around me when I was a boy, and in which I took a deep and most ardent interest.) Scott was good-natured enough to dissent from all this. His grandfather, he told me, had been, when a young man, very poor; and a shepherd, who had lived with the family, came and offered him the loan of (I believe all the money he had) thirty pounds, for the purpose of stocking a farm with sheep. The grandfather accepted it, and went to the fair, but instead of buying the sheep, he laid out the whole sum on a horse, much to the horror of the poor shepherd. Having got the horse, however, into good training and order, he appeared on him at a hunt, and showed him off in such style,

that he immediately found a purchaser for him at twice the sum he cost him, and then, having paid the shepherd his 30*l.*, he laid out the remainder in sheep, and prospered considerably. Pointed out to me the tower where he was born. His father and uncle went off to join the rebels in 1745, but were brought back; himself still a sort of Jacobite; has a feeling of horror at the very name of the Duke of Cumberland. . . . Came to a pretty lake where he fed a large beautiful swan, that seemed an old favourite of his. The Fergusons to dinner; maiden sisters and all. Showed me before dinner, in a printed song book, a very pretty ballad by his bailiff, Mr. Laidlaw, called "Lucy's Flitting." In the evening I sung, and all seemed very much pleased; Sir Adam, too, and his brother the Colonel, sung. Scott confessed that he hardly knew high from low in music. Told him Lord Byron knew nothing of music, but still had a strong feeling of some of those I had just sung, particularly "When he who adores thee;" that I have sometimes seen the tears come into his eyes at some of my songs. Another great favourite of his was "Though the last glimpse of Erin," from which he confessedly borrowed a thought for his "Corsair," and said to me, "It was shabby of me, Tom, not to acknowledge that theft." "I dare say," said Scott, "Byron's feelings and mine about music are pretty much the same." His true delight, however, was visible after supper, when Sir Adam sung some old Jacobite songs; Scott's eyes sparkled, and his attempts to join in chorus showed much more of the will than the deed. "Hey, Tutti tatte," was sung in the true orthodox manner, all of us standing round the table with hands crossed and joined, and chorusing every verse with all our might and main; he seemed to enjoy all this thoroughly. Asked him this morning whether he was not a great admirer of Bruce the traveller; said he was his delight; and I could have sworn so.

November 1st. Scott proposed to take me to-day to the castle of Newark, a place of the Duke of Buccleugh's. Sat with him some time in his study: saw a copy of the "Moniteur" there, which he said he meant to give to the Advocates' Library when he was done with it. I said that what astonished foreigners most was the extent of his knowledge. "Ah, that sort of knowledge (he answered) is

very superficial." I remarked that the manual labour alone of copying out his works seemed enough to have occupied all the time he had taken in producing them. "I write," he answered, "very quick; that comes of being brought up under an attorney." Writes chiefly in the morning, from seven till breakfast time: told me the number of pages he could generally produce in the day, but I do not accurately remember how much it was. Mentioned to him that Lord Byron repeated to me the first hundred and twenty lines of "Lara" immediately after they were written, and he had done them either that morning or the evening before, I forgot which. Went out at twelve in the open carriage, he and I and Miss Scott; the day very lowering. Showed me where the Ettrick and Yarrow join. The Yarrow grows beautiful near the gate of the Duke, and the walk by it through the grounds is charming. Lunched in a little summer-house beyond the bridge. Showed me a deep part of the river into which he found Mungo Park once throwing stones: Park said it reminded him of what he used to do in Africa to try the depth of the rivers. After his return from Africa he opened an apothecary's shop in Selkirk, but the passion for wandering would not allow him to remain quiet. Day cleared up as we returned home. Saw the place where Montrose was defeated; four hundred Irishmen shot near it after the battle. In talking of his ignorance of music, Scott said he had been once employed in a case where a purchaser of a fiddle had been imposed on as to its value. He found it necessary to prepare himself by reading all about fiddles in the Encyclopædias, &c., and having got the names of Straduerius, Amati, &c., glibly on his tongue, got swimmingly through his cause. Not long after this, dining at the Duke of Hamilton's, he found himself left alone after dinner with the Duke, who had but two subjects he could talk of, hunting and music. Having exhausted hunting, Scott thought he would bring forward his lately acquired learning in fiddles; upon which the Duke grew quite animated, and immediately whispered some orders to the butler, in consequence of which there soon entered the room about half a dozen tall servants all in red, each bearing a fiddle case; and Scott found his knowledge brought to no less a test

than that of telling by the tones of each fiddle, as the Duke played it, by what artist it was made. "By guessing and management," he said, "I got on pretty well till we were, to my great relief, summoned to coffee." Mentioned an anecdote which he had heard from Lady Swinton, of her seeing, when a child, a strange young lady in the room, whom she took for a spirit, from her vanishing the moment she turned her head. It was a person whom her mother kept concealed, from some cause, within the panel: this evidently suggested the circumstance in one of his novels. On our return home found that two gentlemen were waiting to see Sir Walter; proved to be young Demidoff, son of the rich Russian, who has been sent to Edinburgh for his education, and, with his tutor, was now come to pay a visit to Sir Walter.* Much talk with the young man, who is very intelligent, about Russian literature. I mentioned the "Fables" of Kriloff, of which I had seen a translation in French, and in one of which he talks of Voltaire being roasted in hell à *petit feu*. This translation, Demidoff said, was a very bad one. Sung in the evening; much pressed by Scott to defer my departure for a day or two.

2nd. While I was dressing, Mr. Gordon (a presbyterian clergyman, whom I found at Abbotsford, and who is employed making a catalogue of the library) came into my room, and requested, as a great favour, a lock of my hair: told him to be careful how he cut it, as Mrs. Moore would be sure to detect the "rape." The carriage being ordered immediately after breakfast, to take me to the coach and young Demidoff and his tutor to Melrose Abbey, I took leave of Scott, who seemed (as my companions afterwards remarked) to feel much regret at parting with me. Finding a place in the Jedburgh coach, I set off for Edinburgh. Some talk among the people in the coach about Scott; said he was "a very peculiar man," and seemed all to agree that he had chosen a very bad situation for his house. Went outside for the last two or three stages, in order to see the country, but it was all dreary and barren. The entrance, however, into Edinburgh most striking; the deep ra-

* A gentleman who was at Abbotsford at the time, declares that it was Count Orloff, a nephew of the Count Orloff, who holds a high station at the Russian Court, who was Sir Walter Scott's guest, and not M. Demidoff.—Ed.

vine between the two towns, the picturesque sites of the buildings on the heights and in the depths, the grand openings to the sea, all is magnificent, and unlike every thing else. By the by, talking with the guard about Abbotsford, he told me Lady Scott had said that "it was quite an hotel in every thing but pay." Took a hackney coach and drove to William Murray's (husband to Bessy's sister), having received a letter from him at Abbotsford, entreating me to take a bed at his house. Found Anne not so much altered (though it is fourteen years since we last met) as Bessy led me to expect. A note while we were at dinner from Murray's sister, Mrs. Siddons, to ask me, if not too fatigued, to drink tea there. We went; none but herself and daughters; sung a little, though very hoarse; one of the Miss S.'s also sung. Had written to Jeffrey after dinner to say I was come, and would be out with him at Craigerook to-morrow; an answer from him to say, "Why not to-night?"

3rd. Went out with Murray and a Mr. Bridges to see the town; the day, though it looked dull, very clear, and favourable for seeing the distant hills. Went up to the Castle, thence through some of the old town to Calton Hill. Was quite enchanted with the views of the Forth; could see the Isle of May and the snow on Ben Lomond. Had soup at a restaurant on Calton Hill: returned home to meet Jeffrey, who came and proposed that I should call upon him at his town-house in a coach at half-past four. Did so; Craigerook about three miles off; no one at dinner but Mrs. Jeffrey, a Mrs. Miller, and Cockburn, the celebrated barrister. Cockburn very reserved and silent; but full, as I understand, of excellent fun and mimicry when he chooses. A good deal of chat with Jeffrey before going to bed; cannot bear to stir without his wife and child; requires something living and breathing near him, and is miserable when alone. Slept in a curious bedroom, with two turrets for dressing-rooms. This house was once a madhouse, and it was a common saying of any one that was flighty, "He is only fit for Craigerook."

4th. After breakfast, sitting with Jeffrey in his beautiful little Gothic study (from which he looks out on grounds sloping up to a high-wooded hill), he told me, at much length, his opinion of my life of Sheridan. Thinks it a

work of great importance to my fame: people inclined to depreciate my talents have always said, "Yes, Moore can, it is true, write pretty songs, and launch a smart epigram, but there is nothing solid in him." Even of Captain Rock they said, "A lively, flashy work, but the style not fit for the subject." "Here, however," added Jeffrey, "is a convincing proof that you can think and reason solidly and manfully, and treat the gravest and most important subjects in a manner worthy of them. I look upon the part of your book that relates to Sheridan himself as comparatively worthless; it is for the historical and political views that I value it; and am, indeed, of opinion, that you have given us the only clear, fair, and manly account of the public transactions of the last fifty years that we possess." Walked up to the wooded hill opposite the house, and caught some beautiful views of the Forth and its islands, as well as of Edinburgh. Went into town in a hackney coach with Jeffrey and Mrs. Miller: walked about with Jeffrey: called upon Lady Keith. Flahault in Edinburgh, but not at home: promised she would make him come to dinner at Jeffrey's to-day, if he could. Called at Black's the bookseller, at Constable's, at Sir Henry Moncrieff's: sat some time with this fine old man, who seems to be much looked up to. Returned to Craigerook at half-past four with Thomson (Mackintosh's friend), John Murray, and Jeffrey. A large party to dinner: Lord Mackenzie (son of the "Man of Feeling"), Mr. and Mrs. Kay, my old friend Shannon, &c., &c. Sung in the evening. Jeffrey having had a pianoforte sent expressly for the purpose. Have seldom seen people more pleased: obliged to repeat "Ship, ahoy!" "The Watchman," &c.

5th. After breakfast, young Stoddart (grandson to Sir H. Moncrieff) came out to beg I would fix a day to dine with Sir Henry: fixed for next Tuesday. Set off to walk to town, but, near the house, met the "Man of Feeling" coming out to call upon me. Jeffrey put me into the carriage to him, and he carried me into town. Told me that what put him upon writing "Julia de Roubigny," was a wish expressed by Lord Kaim's for a novel without love in it. Dosed me with old stories and civility; and having stopped his carriage half way down a hill, in order to introduce me

to his daughter, who was coming up it, left me at last at Murray's house. Walked out with Murray, and went to see Holyrood House: felt, as I looked at the wretched lodgings around it for the privileged, how much better I had been within the rules of the Allée des Veuves, in 1820. Dined at Mrs. Siddons's, with Murray and Anne: company, the Lord Provost, Shannon, &c., &c. A party in the evening: Miss Gibson Craig, a pretty girl; two other nice girls, Miss Wilsons, very good musicians, rather a rare thing, it appears, in Scotland. Sung with them some Italian duets and trios: one of them sung my own "Say what shall be our sport to-day?" The evening agreeable.

6th. Went off with Murray, in a hackney coach, to see Roslyn Castle; the day clear and sunny, and, considering the time of the year, very favourable for the purpose. The colouring of the leaves, rocks, and water brought out beautifully by the sunshine. Did not go on to Hawthornden: the chapel very curious. Lunched at the inn, well and cheaply. Company to dinner at Murray's, John Wilson, the professor of Moral Philosophy (author of the novels, *Blackwood*, &c.), Ballantyne the printer (Scott's friend, and, as Scott told me, the only critic he had for his novels), and Shannon. Wilson an odd person, but amusing; his imitation of Wordsworth's monologues excellent. Spoke of my Sheridan; thinks the *bon mots* I have reported of his very poor; told him I agreed with him in this, but was obliged to put them in, both from the outcry there would have been, had I not given anecdotes, and the value in which most of those I have given are held by Rogers, Lord Holland, &c., particularly the reply to Tarleton about the mule and the ass, which I saw no great merit in myself, but which Lord H. and Rogers always quote with praise. All agreed in thinking it not only poor, but hardly intelligible.* Wilson praised my book warmly, and said that it was only so far unfair that the biographer had in every page outshone his subject. Seemed not to think very highly of Sheridan's genius; and in speaking

of his great unreported speech, said it appeared to him utterly impossible that, with such powers as his, he should ever have produced any thing deserving of such high praises. In comparing prose with poetry, remarked, in order to prove the inferiority of the former, that there have been great schools of poetry, but no school of prose. Sat drinking till rather late, and sat again with Wilson after supper, till past one. Not being able to dine with him any day before I go, fixed to sup at his house next Tuesday.

7th. Walked about with John Murray; went with him to the Advocates' Library; rather too gay and ornamented; fitter for ladies than lawyers. Called at Black's, the bookseller, who showed me a letter from the Longmans, saying the demand for the "Life" was "prodigious," and that they were bringing out the third edition. Called on Lady Keith; her children at dinner; lunched with them; fixed to dine with her on Wednesday. Proved to me that I could perform all my visits to my Scotch friends in ten days, going to Lord Dunmore's on Monday, thence on Tuesday to her, where I should be saved the trouble of going to the Gwydys by seeing them with her; and so on she traced the route for me, to Lord Belhaven's, the Dalrymple-Hamilton's, &c. &c. Should like it much, but too late in the season, and cannot, at all events, spare the time. Went to John Murray's at five to be taken out to Jeffrey's. McCulloch, the political economist, went with us. Said he was very much pleased with the remarks I had made in the "Life," relative to the debates on the commercial treaty with France, and the Irish propositions: Lord Lansdowne's speech on the latter measure, one, he said, of considerable ability. A large party to dinner at Jeffrey's: Mr. and Mrs. Fullarton (she a fine woman), Mr. and Mrs. Rutherford (the latter, I found, an old acquaintance of mine in Ireland, Sophia Stewart), a Mr. Mure, a young man, only twenty-two, whom Jeffrey mentioned to me as having given great promise of talent, and as being the author of some late articles in the "Review," on Spanish poetry, &c. &c. Sung a good deal in the evening, and had no reason to complain of any want of enthusiasm in my audience. A Miss Young played two or three things with much feeling.

8th. Company to breakfast, Capt. Basil Hall

* Sheridan's joke to Tarleton. Any one might think the wit poor (although I do not agree with them), but the joke is clear enough. "I was on a horse, and now I'm on an elephant," i. e. "I was high above others, but now I am much higher." "You were on an ass, and now you're on a mule," said Sheridan; i. e. "You were stupid and now you're obstinate." For quick repartee in conversation, there are few things better.—J. R.

and his wife, old Mackenzie, &c. &c. Sung for them after breakfast. Have more than once seen Jeffrey (though he professes rather to dislike music) with tears in his eyes while I sang "There's a Song of the Olden Time," one of those that make the most impression. John Murray, having sent out his gig for me, I took leave of Craigerook, leaving, I hope, as pleasant recollections of my visit as I brought away with me. Letters from Mrs. Dugald Stewart and old Mr. Fletcher (a friend of Mackintosh's), full of the most flattering kindness. Mrs. Stewart says that her husband would have come expressly to Edinburgh to meet me, if it was not for the bad weather, and Mr. Fletcher, with many praises of my writings, expresses his regret that his infirmities would not allow him to do the same; both invite me to their houses. Took my place in the mail for Thursday morning. Dined at Sir Henry Moncrieff's: company, Jeffrey, J. Murray, Dr. Thompson, young Stoddart and his sister, and one or two more. Sung to a wretched pianoforte in the evening. Went from thence to Miss Sinclair's; with W. Murray's assistance escaped early, and he and I went to sup at Wilson's. An odd set collected there; among others, the poet Hogg. We had also Williams, the Rector of the Academy, the person to whom Lockhart addressed "Peter's Letters;" said to be an able man; some ladies too, one of whom sung duets with an Italian singing-master; a fine contrast between this foreigner and Hogg, who yelled out savagely two or three Scotch songs, and accompanied the burden of one of them by labouring away upon the bare shoulders of the ladies who sat on each side of him. He and I very cordial together; wanted me to let him drive me to his farm next day, to see wife and bairns. I was much pressed to sing, but there being no pianoforte could not; at last, in order not to seem fine (the great difficulty one has to get over in such society), sung the "Boys of Kilkenney."

9th. Called upon Constable, and sat some time with him: thence to Ballantyne's with Murray, and sung for Mrs. B. and a party there (among whom was G. Thompson, editor of the "Scotsman") though in violent pain; never, however, sung better, and they all seemed much pleased. On coming home, Murray insisted upon sending for Dr. Ross. Went to

dine at Lady Keith's: company, only themselves, Jeffrey, John Murray, and Stewart. Flahault gave me twenty drops of laudanum before dinner; so ill I could not stay at table. Flahault took me down to his bedroom, and attended me with all the kindness that makes brave, warm-hearted soldiers like him such good nurses. Lay on his bed for some time, and then returned to the table. A good many people in the evening, whom I should like to have known something of; among others, Cranston, but my head was turning round, and I could enjoy nothing. Murray all kindness; surrounded me with all possible comforts at night.

10th. Much better this morning, but determined to put off my departure till Sunday (13th). Staid at home all day. Flahault called upon me, and sat some time.

11th. Went out in a hackney-coach: called upon Lady Keith, &c. Dined at home with the Murrays; Dr. Ross of our party. Murray full of talent and fun. * * * * His story of "Jobson of Dundee;" ossification of the heart; bones turning to stones, and blood to mortar. His story of the fellow acting with Kemble in "Coriolanus," and in the speech where he accuses Coriolanus:

"For that he has
(As much as in him lies) from time to time
Envied against the people, seeking means
To pluck away their power."

The fellow forgetting his part here, looked fiercely at Kemble, and added, "And that he is always seen going about the streets, making every one uncomfortable." At the end of the play, the unfortunate actor went to apologise for this awkwardness, but Kemble merely looked bitterly at him, and said, "Beast!" Story of the little girl, on being asked what kind of an animal man was, "He is a tripod." Lord Sidmouth said that the great art of a Speaker of the House of Commons was "to know what to overlook;" applied by Murray to the manager of a theatre. Went with Murray and Ross in the evening to see the theatre lighted up; it has been newly painted and is to open to-morrow night. The Courts also open to-morrow, so that it is lucky I stay.

12th. Went to the Courts after breakfast: found out Jeffrey and walked about with him to see every thing, being myself the greatest

show of the place, and followed by crowds from court to court. Had the pleasure of seeing Scott sitting at his table, under a row of as dull-looking judges as need be. Jeffrey asked him to dine to meet me, and though I had already refused Jeffrey (in order to dine with the Murrays), I could not resist this temptation: begged of Jeffrey to dine pretty early, in order that I might see the theatre. Met Scott afterwards, and told him this arrangement. "Very well," he said, "I'll order my carriage to come at eight o'clock, and I'll just step down to the playhouse with you myself." Company at Jeffrey's, Mr. and Mrs. Rutherford, Thomson, &c. Sir Walter a different man from what he was at Abbotsford; a good deal more inert, and, when he did come into play, not near so engaging or amusing. When the carriage came, he and I and Thomson went to the theatre, and I could see that Scott anticipated the sort of reception I met with. We went into the front boxes, and the moment we appeared, the whole pit rose, turned towards us, and applauded vehemently. Scott said, "It is you, it is you; you must rise and make your acknowledgment." I hesitated for some time, but on hearing them shout out "Moore, Moore," I rose and bowed my best for two or three minutes. This scene was repeated after the two next acts, and the "Irish Melodies" were played each time by the orchestra. Soon after my first reception, Jeffrey and two of the ladies arrived, and sat in the front before us, Scott and I being in the second row. He seemed highly pleased with the way I was received, and said several times, "This is quite right. I am glad my countrymen have returned the compliment for me." There was occasionally some discontent expressed by the galleries at our being placed where they could not see us; and Murray told me afterwards, that he wondered they bore it so well. We had taken the precaution of ordering that we should be shown into one of the side boxes, but the proper box-keeper was out of the way when we came. At about ten o'clock we came away, I having first renewed my acquaintance with Mrs. Coutts, who was with the Duke of St. Alban's in a box near us. Home very tired with my glory, and had to pack for the morning.

13th. Up before six: found that Murray, in order to be ready for me, had sat up reading

all night. Got to the mail coach office in time, and was off at seven. A gentleman came into the coach in the middle of the day, who after some time guessed who I was, and asked my name. Said he had been with some friends in Scotland, who were full of indignation at the people of Edinburgh for not giving me a public dinner; assured him that the people of Edinburgh were not in fault, as such a tribute had been proposed to me, but that the shortness of my stay rendered it impossible.

14th. Got to Manchester in the morning. Had a letter of introduction from Constable to a gentleman of the town, but was too tired to deliver it. Resolved to give up my original intention of visiting Derbyshire, and to get, as soon as possible, home.

15th. Started in the coach for Birmingham, where I arrived at night. An odd fellow (an Irishman) in the traveller's room, which was very full, recognised me, and after various civilities, begging me to draw nearer to the fire, &c., came up to me and said in a whisper, "I know who you are: whisht! the last time I saw you, you were only seven years old, and I little thought what a great man you would become. Do you remember Mr. Molloy?" So he went on. Got to bed, having taken my place in the Bath coach for the morning.

* * * * *

December 11th. Received two letters (one of which I ought to have got yesterday) from my sister Ellen, telling me that my dearest father is dangerously ill: the event I have been but too well prepared for. God send he may not have pain or lingering. His long life has been one of almost uninterrupted health, and I have been able (thank Heaven!) to make his latter days tranquil and comfortable. It is my poor mother I have now most to feel for. Must start immediately for Ireland, but this being Sunday can make no arrangements for money. The shock at first very great, notwithstanding the prepared state of my feelings; darling Bessy full of the sweetest sympathy and kindness about it. Wrote to Corry, to say I trusted in his friendship for every thing being done that ought to be done, and begging him to communicate to Ellen my intention to set off immediately.

12th. Sent to the bank: have some fears lest the present panic may prevent them from cashing, as usual, my bill on Power. Walked

over to Bowood to see Lord Lansdowne, who returned from Paris on Saturday: took little Tom with me; my own thoughts not being such agreeable company, as, I am glad to say, they in general are. Found Lord and Lady Lansdowne; soon got on the subject of "Sheridan's Life," and his tone confirmed what his letter from Paris had prepared me for, namely, that neither he nor any of my high Whig friends are quite pleased with my book. The fact is, what I stated to Agar Ellis in my answer to the flattering letter he wrote me on the subject is but too true. "You are just of a standing that enables you to view the events of which I treat historically; but those who were themselves actors in the scene will not, I fear, take so favourable a view of my impartiality." The points which Lord Lansdowne mentioned as objectionable were, first, the censure upon those who attended the funeral; secondly, what I have said, as to the surrender of principle by those Whigs who coalesced with Lord Grenville; and, thirdly, the remark on the "overshadowing branches of the Whig aristocracy," in my account of Canning's political début, which he thought was going out of my way to throw a reflection on the Whigs. In answer to this last objection, told him the whole paragraph is but the substance of Canning's own reasons for the line he took, as stated by him in a letter to Lord Holland at the time, and as mentioned more than once to me by Lord Holland. On the other points, too, I briefly defended myself, but have not time here to note down what I said. He remarked also that, though I had not professedly drawn any parallel between the talents of Fox as a statesman and those of Burke and Sheridan, yet he thought it might be deduced from my general sentiments that I was not inclined to place Fox so far above the other two as he Lord L. thought he deserved. To this I answered that neither had I in my book, nor would I venture now, to draw any parallel between Fox and Sheridan with respect to political sagacity, but that I recollected Tierney once telling me that Pitt looked upon Sheridan as a much abler man than Fox. This surprised Lord Lansdowne, and I bid him ask Tierney whether I understood him rightly. Told him what Jeffrey had said with respect to the "Life" being useful to my reputation in a department of intellect for which I had hitherto got but

little credit; namely, sound political reasoning. Lord L. said he quite agreed in this. Expressed a strong wish that I should undertake the Life of Grattan. Talked much with him on the subject of Lord Byron's "Life," and mentioned Scott's advice that I should employ him (Lord L.) to negotiate between me and the family. This brought him to tell me (what he has hitherto, very much at my own desire, kept a secret from me) the nature of the negotiations which he had in that quarter last summer. It seems Wilmot Horton consulted Lord L. with respect to the question of paying me back the money, and Lord L. gave it as his opinion that the obvious step for the family to take was (without any reference to me, who was decided upon refusing it) to settle it upon my family. This, Wilmot Horton said, was his own view of the matter exactly. On proposing it, however, to the family, they refused to pay the money otherwise than making myself take it. From all this it appeared that Lord Lansdowne has no channel of communication (as I supposed) with the family: offered however, most kindly, to undertake any proposal to them I might wish. Walked nearly home with me. All this conversation, added to the already deep sadness of my heart, threw me into a state of nervousness and depression on my return home, from which it required all the efforts of my natural cheerfulness to recover me. Bessy, too, did much for me by her own sweet womanly fortitude, bless her! Dined at three, and set off at five in a chaise for Bath. Went, on my arrival, to see Anastasia: found the sweet child in the midst of gaiety: it was the ball night, and she came onto me, "smiling as if earth contained no tomb." On my telling her of the sad mission I was going upon, she assumed that grave look which children think it right to put on at such news, though they cannot be expected, and, indeed, *ought* not to feel it. She wore three or four orders of merit which she had gained; one, for general amiability of conduct (a lily of the valley), of which she told me with much triumph, there had been but four given in the school; another (a rose) for her progress in music, and so on. Slept at the York House: got them to give me a letter to the landlord of the inn at Birmingham to secure me a comfortable bed. Found in the coffee-room an old acquaintance (Birmingham, the clergyman),

with two sons of Charles Butler, on their way to Ireland.

13th. Journey to Birmingham: read on the way "Hall's South America."

14th. There being so many candidates for the coach at the Albion, went to the Swan, to take my chance in the mail: got a place; my companions, a dull, good-natured Scotchman, and a young lady with a little girl under her charge, who left us at Shrewsbury. Took in a gentleman as far as Oswestry, who proved to be a merchant of some kind at Liverpool: some interesting conversation on commercial matters; mentioned the great change that had taken place of late years from the manufacturers exporting for themselves without the intervention of merchants, as formerly; the latter class, accordingly, quite extinct, and the business managed entirely between the manufacturers and their commercial agents abroad. All this done from greediness of profit, and their present sufferings (from bad remittances and the fall of cotton): little, he thought, to be pitied. Liverpool and Manchester have been wise enough to keep clear of local notes; many attempts made to introduce them, but all resisted. In one stage between Llangollen and Corwen, there came on the most dreadful storm of thunder, lightning, and hail that ever I witnessed; the horses, though alarmed, behaved, luckily, very steadily; but the universal blazing of the sky and the pitch darkness that succeeded, the storm of hail blowing in the coachman's face, the horses in full career, and the guard crying out from behind, with evidently an alarmed voice, "Hold hard! hold hard!" were altogether circumstances by no means agreeable. Confess I felt a little frightened, and arranged myself on my seat in the safest attitude for an overset. Got safe, however, to Corwen; the coachman owned he was once very nearly off the road. At Bangor (where we arrived between one and two) resolved, as it would be so miserably wet and dark in crossing the ferry, to stop at Jackson's, and pass the day of rest I meant to give myself *there*, instead of at Holyhead. Had to knock the people up, and got to bed about three.

15th. After writing a letter to Bessy, walked to see the Menai Bridge which is to be opened for general passage next month; a grand achievement. Dined at half-past three, in order

to be ready to take the first chance of a place on that offered. Birmingham and the two boys arrived in a chaise; told me there was but little hope of a place in either of the coaches, and offered to take me on; willingly accepted, and left my luggage to follow. Much talk about my Sheridan work, which Birmingham praised to the skies. Got to Holyhead between nine and ten, the wind blowing from the worst possible point, and with a fury that gave but a bad prospect for to-morrow. Had bid Corry write to me to Holyhead, but too late now to get a letter out of the office.

16th. Up at five, and aboard the packet (Skinner's) at half-past six. Got into my berth immediately, where I lay without moving for the twelve long hours of our passage: by this means kept off actual sickness, but became even more deadly ill than if I had been sick. Overheard a man say to the under-steward in the cabin, "Isn't Mr. Moore among the passengers?" "I don't know indeed, sir," was the answer. "His father (said the other) is ——" (I didn't hear the word). "Is he, sir?" said the steward. This appeared to me conclusive that all was over; and it is a proof of the power of the mind over even sea-sickness, that though I was just then on the point of being sick, the dread certainty which these words conveyed to me quite checked the impulse, and I remained for some time even without a qualm. Did not stir till all the passengers had gone off by the coach, and then had a chaise and drove to McDowell's, in order to get something to eat, not having tasted food for twenty-eight hours. Found there Corry's two nephews; as they had only an open car to take them to Dublin, offered them seats in my chaise, and put my luggage into their car. Drove to Corry's and sent in for him; told me my father was still alive, but that was all. Went with me to Bilson's hotel, where he had got a bed-room for me. Assured me that I need not agitate myself as I did, for that my father was closing his eyes on the world without any suffering, and that my mother had already brought her mind to as much composure as could possibly be expected. Undertook to go and consult my sister Ellen, as to whether it would be too much for my mother to see me to-night: returned to say that I must come to her by all means, as she was expecting me, and it would be (Ellen thought) of the greatest service to

her. Was glad to find from him that it was their strong wish I should not ask to see my father, as he was past the power of knowing me, and it would only shock me unnecessarily. This a great relief, as I would not for worlds have the sweet impression he left upon my mind when I last saw him exchanged for one which would haunt me, I know, dreadfully through the remainder of my life. It was Bessy's last wish that I should not arrive in time to see him alive, and her earnest request that I should not look on him afterwards. She knows how it would affect me. The meeting with my dearest mother, after the first burst, not so painful as I expected, and I soon found I could divert her mind to other subjects. My sister Kate had come up on the first alarm of his illness, and had taken her turn with Ellen in nursing and watching him ever since. Left them for my hotel between eleven and twelve, and had a much better night than I should have had, if I had remained in ignorance of my mother's mind. At parting, Ellen bid me not come too early in the morning, and said she would write me a note.

17th. Took my time at breakfast, and waited for Ellen's note, but none came. Walked down to Abbey Street and found that all was over; my dear father had died at seven in the morning. Consulted about the funeral, which it was the wish of all to have as simple and private as possible: entrusted the management of it to Mr. Legh, the son of an old friend of my mother. Dined at Abbot's, and returned to my mother in the evening. Our conversation deeply interesting: found that neither my mother nor Kate were very anxious to press upon him the presence of a clergyman; but on mentioning it to him at Corry's suggestion, he himself expressed a wish for it. The subject of religion was, indeed, the only one, it seems, upon which his mind was not gone. When the priest was proceeding to take his confession, and put the necessary questions for that purpose to him, he called my mother, and said, "Auty, my dear, you can tell this gentleman all he requires to know quite as well as I." This was very true, as she knew his every action and thought, and is a most touching trait of him. A few nights before he died, when Ellen was doing something for him, he said to her,

"You are a valuable little girl, it's a pity some good man does not know your value."

The apothecary, who was standing by, said with a smile, "Oh, sir, some good man *will*." "Not an apothecary, though," answered my father, which looked as if the playfulness, for which he was always so remarkable, had not even then deserted him. Our conversation naturally turned upon religion, and my sister Kate, who, the last time I saw her, was more than half inclined to declare herself a Protestant, told me she had since taken my advice and remained quietly a Catholic. * * * For myself, my having married a Protestant wife gave me an opportunity of choosing a religion, at least for my children, and if my marriage had no other advantage, I should think *this* quite sufficient to be grateful for. We then talked of the differences between the two faiths, and they who accuse all Catholics of being intolerantly attached to their own, would be either ashamed or surprised (according as they were sincere or not in the accusation) if they had heard the sentiments expressed both by my mother and sisters on the subject. Was glad to find I could divert my mother's mind from dwelling entirely on what had just happened; indeed, the natural buoyancy and excursiveness of her thoughts (which, luckily for myself, I have inherited) affords a better chance of escape from grief than all the philosophy in the world. Left them late after fixing everything for Monday.

18th. Staid within till dinner: dined with my mother at Mrs. Legh's, an old friend of hers, to whose house we persuaded her to go out of the way of the sad preparations for tomorrow. Saw my sisters Ellen and Kate at night, and found them both much shocked and agitated by the scene they had gone through with the undertakers. Wished to spare me the operation of the mass in the morning, and advised me not to come till after the service was over; but thought it better for every reason to attend. Felt my heart full of sadness when I got to my bed-room, but was relieved by a burst both of tears and prayer, and by a sort of *confidence* that the great and pure Spirit above us could not be otherwise than pleased with what he saw passing within my mind. This, perhaps, not Christian humility, but let it be what it will, I felt consoled and elevated by it.

19th. Awake at a little after four; got up at half-past five, and was in Abbey Street at

half-past six. The priest not yet come; at seven he arrived, and we had mass in the room with the coffin. There had been very few invited, but others came of themselves, and after a long delay of the hearse (which had been promised at seven, but did not come till half-past eight), we set off for St. Kevin's church. The mourning coach was a relief to me, for the delay had been dreadful. There were mourners with me, Corry, Abbot, and young Legh, and in the coach after us were Philip Crampton, Mr. Maze, Grierson, Lyne, and two more. The weather was wretched, and altogether the scene shocked and afflicted me beyond anything: the vulgar apparatus of the ceremony seems such a profanation! Went to breakfast with Abbot, thence to my mother at Mrs. Legh's, and afterwards to Ellen and Kate. Dined at Corry's; doubted whether I ought or not, but anything to escape from such thoughts. The company, Grierson, Abbot, and his family. * * * Abbot brought me home. Forgot to say that, the night before last, I received a letter from Crampton, inclosing one from Shaw (the Lord Lieutenant's secretary), the purport of which was that the Lord Lieutenant meant to continue my father's half-pay in the shape of a pension to my sister. Resolved, of course, to decline this favour, but wrote a letter full of thankfulness to Crampton. Find since that this was done at Crampton's suggestion; that Lord Wellesley spoke of the difficulty there was in the way, from the feelings the King most naturally entertained towards me, and from himself being the personal friend of the King, but that on further consideration, he saw he could do it without any reference to the other side of the Channel, and out of the pension fund placed at his disposal as Lord Lieutenant. All this very kind and liberal of Lord Wellesley; and God knows how useful such an aid would be to me, as God alone knows how I am to support all the burdens now heaped upon me; but I *could not* accept such a favour. It would be like that *lasso* with which they catch wild animals in South America; the noose would be only on the *tip* of the horn, it is true, but it would do. Find that Crampton and Corry, though the chief movers of the act, highly approve of my refusal. Had a kind letter from Bryan to-day, begging me to take my mother and sisters

down to Jenkinstown; answered him that I would come down myself as soon as possible.

20th. Had some talk with my sister Kate, as to what is to be done for my mother. * * * There was my admirable Bessy, before I left home, planning how *we* might contrive to do with but one servant, in order that I might be the better able to assist my mother. Dined at Abbot's; no one but Dr. Litton. Abbot said (in talking of the necessity of a man's *ruining* himself in Ireland, in order to get the character of being any thing of a good fellow), that he who had a pipe of port coming down to him with a *custodiam* on it, was thought the only true and proper gentleman. Went to Mrs. Legh's afterwards, and from thence with Ellen to Abbey Street, where I found John (who had arrived to-day), and supped.

21st. Sent Crampton my letter, in answer to Lord Wellesley's offer: had a note from him back, in which he said, "It is (like everything that comes from you) as perfect in expression as it is noble in thought." Can get no place in any of the coaches for Bryan's, it being Christmas time. Dined with my mother, who returned to Abbey Street this morning; John Scully of the party.

22nd. Resolved to give up going to Bryan's till Monday, and to dine with my mother on Christmas Day. Receive letters from my dearest Bess every day, which is a great delight to me. Corry told me from Crampton that Lord Wellesley was highly pleased with my letter; said it was very creditable to me; that he hoped I was not too sanguine in taking so much upon my own shoulders, but that if I should see reason to change my opinion, I should find him equally disposed to serve me. Dined with my mother. Sent Dr. Mills a copy of "Sheridan's Life," as a mark of gratitude for his attendance on my father.

23rd. Corry and I called at Philip Crampton's to leave word we should dine with him. Gervais Bushe sat some time with me in the morning, and spoke with great praise of "Sheridan's Life;" told me some fine traits of Grattan. In the year 1778, when from the tenants in most places having neglected to renew their leases the leases had lapsed, Grattan who was very poor, and might have had a great accession to his little property by taking advantage of this circumstance, was himself the person

to bring a bill into the House, making it imperative on the landlords to renew the leases on the old terms. Another circumstance was, when Fox in '82 wrote to the Whig party in Ireland to announce the coming of the Duke of Portland, and expressed a wish for their support, Grattan and Lord Charlemont met together on the subject at Grattan's lodgings, and the latter said, "You, Lord C., are the poorest peer in Ireland, and I am the poorest commoner; what I propose is, that neither of us shall accept any thing from the new government, but try to serve the country." In 1806 he likewise declined taking office, and said, "Let us be consulted, but not considered." Dined with Crampton; none but he and I and Corry. Crampton very lively and amusing. Went to sup with my mother. Paid to-day fifteen guineas to Mr. Donough, the tailor, half of it for a suit of clothes which my poor father had last year; paid also for the expenses of the funeral seventeen guineas. Should have mentioned that, before I left home, I wrote to the Longmans to know whether I might (for the expenses I was about to encounter) draw on them whatever little balance might, by their late goodness, be coming to me on the Sheridan account; that I had no right to draw it, as every thing ought to go into the chasm of debt that was open between us, but that I could not help it. Received a kind letter from them since my arrival, to beg that I would draw upon them for whatever I wanted "without reference to the amount."

24th. Drove with Crampton in his gig to the park, to leave my name with Lord Wellesley: went from thence with him to Goulburn's, and while he was paying his visit, wrote out for him in Goulburn's study my verses, "A Bishop and a Bold Dragoon," which he had never seen. Told me that Mrs. Goulburn had expressed a wish to know me, and that I should dine with them. Gave me some very pretty verses of his own to Miss Edgeworth, with Sir Walter Scott's pen: showed me also some verses of hers to himself, strongly laudatory, but very bad. Dined with Corry: company, North, Henry Grattan, Gervais Bushe, Wallace. North, slow and sententious, and apparently not much above the level of ordinary official talent: said before dinner, that he had discovered in an old act of parliament, an illustration of the phrase "gouts of

blood" in Shakspeare; in speaking of the sewers of Dublin, the acts called them "gouts." This, however, I remarked, has a more direct origin in the French word *égouts*, which means sewers, while the "gout" of Shakspeare is as directly and evidently from the French word *goutte*. Like a man accustomed to lay down the law, he did not appear willing to give up his own view of the matter. A variety of subjects brought into play after dinner, upon most of which Wallace struck me as by far the most sensible man of the party. In the evening there were two nice girls, the Miss Henns, who sung Italian with very good taste. I sung also a good deal. In singing, "There's a Song of the Olden Time," the feelings which I had so long suppressed broke out: I was obliged to leave the room, and continued sobbing hysterically on the stairs for several minutes.

25th. Dined with my dear mother and sisters, and were all as happy as the circumstances would admit of.

26th. Set off in a coach from Duke Street for Kilkenny: six inside; some rather intelligent men. One of them said, in talking of Conolly the rich merchant, "He is a safe man to ride behind on the back of a seven-shilling stamp." Mentioned Sir Boyle Roche's dream; his head being cut off and placed upon a table, "*Quis separabit?*" says the head; "*Nabobclish,*" says I, in the same language." Arrived at Kilkenny at eight; a servant at the inn waiting to tell me that Bryan and Mrs. B. had come to meet me, and were waiting dinner for me at Rice's Hotel; a very thoughtful and welcome attention. Drove to Jenkinstown in Bryan's coach and four after dinner; slept in one of the large cold state bedrooms, and might have sung, "Can nothing, nothing warm me?"

27th, 28th. No company: walked about a little with Bryan, and dined late. Told me he had not found any satisfactory way of vesting Anastasia's thousand pounds, and had therefore left it to her in his will, bearing interest from the date of the will.

29th. Dined rather early, and set off at eight for Kilkenny, where I had ordered a bed, for the purpose of starting next morning for Dublin.

30th. Left Kilkenny at seven. Two Dublin tradesmen (Catholics) my companions in the coach; sensible and rather cultivated men.

One of them had some number of Cobbett's "History of the Reformation," which I read on the way. In speaking of Cromwell, one of my companions said he thought the character of the Emir, in my "Fireworshippers," had many points of resemblance with that of Cromwell. The other asked me whether by the parson near Roscrea, whom I mentioned in "Captain Rock," I meant the Rev. W. Hamilton? Told him not. Arrived in Dublin at four; went to Crampton's, with whom I had promised to fix my residence on my return. Set off to see my mother before dinner; found she had not been so well during my absence. In consequence of the distance of Crampton's house from Abbey Street, resolved to return to my old quarters at Bilson's. Company at dinner at Crampton's: Sir C. and Lady Morgan, John Doherty, the Corrys, Colonel Shawe, &c. Crampton told me that he had shown my lines about "the Bishop and the Bold Dragon" to Lord Wellesley; and on the lines "To whom no harlot comes amiss, save her of Babylon," Lord W. said, "Well, I make no exception to the general rule, for *she* does not come amiss to me *either*." Additional company in the evening: Mrs. Sewell and her daughter, Mrs. Bowles and her sister, Miss Montague, Miss Caton, Mrs. Ponsonby, &c. &c. Sung a good deal, and happened, in spite of cold and my morning journey, to be in good voice.

31st. Went (after breakfast at Crampton's) to call on Henry Grattan, accompanied by Corry, who had fixed the meeting for the purpose of talking with Grattan about his father's "Life," and his intentions with respect to transferring the materials for it to me. Found him as shilly-shally as ever; will evidently neither perform the task himself, nor (though professedly inclined to do so) ever bring himself to relinquish it to another. Showed me several volumes of memoranda and sketches on the subject, but, unfortunately, almost all in his own handwriting; very little of the father's. Even the conversations of the father come all darkened and diluted through the medium of the son's memory and taste: this will never do. Said ultimately he must write to England to consult his family on the subject. Dined at Wallace's (Corry and I), out of town; company, North and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Crampton, Mr. and Miss—,

Gervais Bushe, &c. &c. The day rather dull. North, in talking of language (evidently a favorite subject of his), said, "that certain words, in the course of time, sunk in the scale of gentility, and passed, like houses, into the hands of humbler occupants." By the bye, Crampton reminded me this morning of my having once said to him of the Spenser stanza, that when (as often occurs in Lord Byron) the sense is continued without any stop from one stanza to another, it was "like going on another stage with tired horses." In the evening a gentleman played sonatas on the pianoforte, and I sung, with (apparently) but little echo in the hearts of my audience. Got back with Corry to Crampton's at twelve, and eat oysters and drunk brandy and water till two. Slept at Crampton's.

1826.

JANUARY 1st, 1826. In consequence of a card (which I found on my return from Kilkenny) inviting me to act as collector at a charity sermon for the Magdalen Asylum to-day, went at two o'clock to Townsend Street Chapel. Introduced into the priest's apartments: saw Dr. Murray, the archbishop. The sermon (by the Rt. Rev. Dr. M'Hale) rather good; his illustrations from scripture well imagined: the angel pointing out the fountain to Agar in the desert, &c. Blake, the chief remembrancer, my fellow collector: had to stand a good stare for every pound note I received. On my coming out into the yard a great number of persons assembled to see me, and in the narrow passage into the street a man nearly pushed me down, asking me at the same time, "Which way is he (meaning myself) gone?" Crampton's carriage was waiting for me, and one of my spectators (a fine gentleman in a crimson lined cloak), begged to help me in, saying, as he took me by the hand, "A countryman of yours, sir;" a countryman of mine being such a rarity here: an Irishman a *rara avis* in Townsend Street! Dined at my mother's: told me of a priest lately, at Balbuggan (I think), who, wishing to raise some money for the repairs of the chapel, hit upon the plan of buying a copy of Lalla Rookh, and having it raffled for at half-a-crown a piece, by which means, it seems, he collected the sum he want-

ed. Went for a short time to Corry's in the evening. Called to-day on Lord Blessington, and sat some time with him.

2nd. A dreadfully wet day. Met Curran in Millikin's shop, who told me I was expected at Lord Cloncurry's, at Lyons, to-morrow, and repeated what had been before hinted to me, of the wish of Lord Cloncurry and others to get up a public dinner for me. Went with Curran to Shiel, and talked over the subject: expressed myself decidedly against it. They proposed sounding the Duke of Leinster, as to whether he would take the chair; but after a good deal of discussion, I begged of them to dismiss it entirely from their minds, as my intention was to sail for England on the following Friday. A good deal of talk upon the Catholic cause. Said I thought their best policy would have been, after the defeat last session, to have had one great meeting, to have let their feelings explode on that occasion as violently as they pleased, and after that to maintain a sullen and formidable silence, which (for the same reason that makes the government always apprehensive when the fellows are not drinking and breaking each others' heads at fairs) would have had ten times more effect in alarming their rulers than all the oratorical brawling in the world. Shiel said this would not do; there was but little public spirit in Ireland; they wanted continual lashing up; the priests were the only lever by which they could raise the people, and they had now fully brought them into play. Dined at Millikin's: a party of sixteen, Baron Smith, Sergeant Gould, Crampton, Corry, Blake, Doherty, Col. Shawe, &c. &c. The dinner splendid, and without any fuss, as if habitual; fine wines, liqueurs, &c. &c. Blake's story of Baron Thompson: his telling of his once going to bed at an inn, determined on a good night's sleep; the porter coming in the morning to call him for the Birmingham coach, "'Stay, friend,' said I, waking out of my sleep, a phrase I am in the habit of using. 'Stay!' said he, 'the Birmingham coach stays for no man. You must get up.' The porter then going away, and returning with the chambermaid, 'That's he!' said she, 'that's the gentleman that said it was so hard to make him get up. We must pull him out.' Upon which (said Baron Thompson) I exclaimed, 'I am Baron Thompson come here for the assizes to-morrow; and the devils fled.'" This fol-

lowed by a story of Baron Smith's about Gould: the lawyers teasing him one night on circuit, when, after grumbling at every thing, he went up to bed, sending him up tea, then negus, &c., and, lastly, an old woman with a tub of water for his feet, who fell down the two steps into his room, and decanted the whole of the water into the room. A good inscription for a fountain, built by some Irish lady, whose name is Letitia, "*Lætitia sitientibus.*" Came away before eleven with Crampton and Corry, and went to Abbot's box at the theatre (where I could not be seen) for a short time. Thence to Crampton's, and had oysters and brandy and water: home at two. Received a letter from Lord Lansdowne to-day, begging me to report myself at Bowood immediately on my return home, as all his company would soon be going, and hoping I should be there for Twelfth Night. In allusion to my affair with Lord Wellesley he says, "I hope you have not been too heroic."

3rd. Answered Lord Lansdowne, and, in vindicating myself from the charge of being "too heroic," said, "I cannot forget that in a conversation I had with you about 'Sheridan's Life,' before I left home, when I was speculating as to what would be the tone of the 'Quarterly Review,' you said, 'why, you have been very conciliatory to them.' This startled me at the time; for what *you* call conciliatory, others would be sure to call *courting*; and if a favour from that quarter should happen to be coincident with such an expression, I know the world too well to expect they would separate the two considerations in their estimate of my motives." Called at Mrs. Smith's: met there Scott's friend, Weld Hartstonge, who had already sent me his novel: expressed his intention of presenting me a small edition of "More's Utopia" and a volume of church music. Saw Sir Capel Molynieux, who, telling me he was a descendant of the celebrated Molynieuxes, said: "Sir, *your* name will live as long as his and Locke's." Inclosed the preface of the German "Captain Rock" (of which Longmans have just sent me a translation) to Conway, for the "Evening Post." Met him afterwards at Millikin's: thinks the Catholic cause is gone to ruin, and nothing but the distress of England can retrieve it. Supped with my mother.

4th. Called upon my Limerick friend, Miss

Crump: read me part of her novel: showed me a letter she lately received from Professor Napier, of Edinburgh (of which she has since sent me the following extract:—"Owing to this I saw less of your eminent countryman, Moore, than I could have wished. What I did see of him gave me the idea of a very agreeable, unpretending, and brilliant man. His 'Life of Sheridan' is excellent for sense, knowledge, and liberality; and would have been excellent in style also, if its author had repressed a little the exuberance of his Irish fancy. He was highly popular here; and has, I believe, carried away a more favourable impression of *the Athens* than a certain fair friend of mine. I should have been happy had things permitted me to see more of him; for I highly reverence his talents and his genius; and we heard nothing of him but what was good, and kind, and amiable." Saw Shiel: consulted me as to the intention the Catholic leaders had of commencing immediately a direct attack upon the Established Church in Ireland, and giving it no quarter. This led to a long conversation: mentioned the "ferocious attack" Dawson had just made upon him in a speech at Derry: will take his own moment to answer him, and not be in a hurry, lest people should say he is angry. Traces the attack to his own phrase, "plebeian arrogance" applied to Peel; feels on such occasions like the drummer tied to the halbert, having flogged so many himself. Dined with my mother; and in the evening looked over some of my early letters to her. Fear it will be impossible for me to sail on Friday, as I intended: there has been a storm from the eastward since Tuesday, and no packet is able to get out.

5th. Paid some visits; among others to O'Connell: said he did not despair of producing a sensation by the approaching meeting. As to the Catholics irritating or alienating the people of England, thinks they have a purgation of that kind to go through before they can hope for any thing. Gave me a signal instance of that inconsistency for which he is so remarkable. On several occasions lately he has said in public, that he thought the inferences drawn from my "Life of Sheridan" with respect to the feelings of the King towards the Catholics were erroneous; that the rumours founded on those deductions were false, &c. &c.; yet almost the second sentence

he now addressed to me was, "A most useful statement that which you have made with regard to the feelings of the King." Mentioned the sanguineness of Plunket, with respect to the question last session, apparently in vindication of his own. That he called upon Plunket one morning, and waited till he should awake; that Plunket came out to him in his dressing-gown, and, shaking his hand, said, "I wish you joy of your Emancipation. I now look upon it as quite certain." Mentioned an idea of Dominick Rice's, with respect to the sort of petition the Catholics ought to present. "The fighting age in Ireland," said Dominick, "is from sixteen to sixty. I would have the petition signed by all within those ages, and to commence, 'We, the undersigned fighting-men of Ireland, most respectfully beg that you will emancipate us.'" "Do you think," he said, "this *Constantine* will do any thing for us?" Met Miss Crump again, who insisted on my going home with her to hear another chapter of her novel. Dined with Dowager Lady Clanricarde, who has come to Dublin for the purpose of marrying her daughter to Lord Howth, and has been these two days an inmate of the same hotel with me. Lord Howth mentioned a story of Crampton's, about the fellow saying, "Oh Christ! I ought never to hunt, I am so cowardly." A note from Frankland Lewis to say, that as he hears I do not mean to sail to-morrow, he hopes I will dine with him.

6th. Dined with F. Lewis: company, the Goulburns, Mr. and Mrs. Bowles, Miss Montague, Crampton, Mr. Grant, and several officers. Found that Goulburn (whom I have so little spared in "Captain Rock") is an old acquaintance of mine; at least, he reminded me very civilly, in sitting down to dinner, that we met one day, many years ago, at dinner at Byng's: asked me to take wine, and altogether got on very amiably with me. Singing in the evening. Miss Montague sang with me "Dost Thou remember." The three sisters, too, sang together two Irish airs, "The Harp that once," and "Erin, the Tear;" but took care not to profane their lips with the *rebel* words of mine, singing them to the old words, "Had I a heart," and "Aileen a Roon," and (what made it more marked) using the harmonies of my work. Left Crampton at home: dreadfully wet day, and the wind still violent from the east.

7th. Dined with my mother: employed myself for an hour or two before and after dinner in looking over my own letters, and taking memorandums of their dates, &c. Forgot to mention that Crampton, while I was away in Kilkenny, gave a statement of my affair with Lord Wellesley to the "Evening Mail;" and, contrary to my own intention (for I had suggested that there should be nothing more said than that "I had respectfully declined the offer"), put in an extract of my own letter to him, which, both as betraying that the statement came *immediately* from the persons concerned, and as expressing, in a manner not quite fitted for the public eye, my intention of taking upon myself the sole support of my family, did not at all please me. As I knew he meant well, however, and the thing could not now be remedied, said nothing about it to him. Went alone to Abbot's box to see Cagliostro. Staid out two acts, and then returned to my mother's, and supped. All the packets now at this side. Lord Blessington has been four days waiting at Howth.

8th. Find that two packets have got out this morning, but the wind still easterly. Dined with my mother and looked over my letters in the evening. Have resolved to take my chance on Tuesday.

9th. Millikin called; anxious for me to dine with him to-day; consented on condition of being let away early to my mother. A letter from Bessy full of disappointment at the prospect of my not being at home on Twelfth Night as I had promised. Lord Lansdowne had called and pressed her to go to Bowood with the children on that night. Lady L. too had written most kindly, and it was her intention to go. Made up my mind to be off to-morrow morn'g; the wind much moderated. Company at Millikin's: Crampton, Cuthbert Eules, and Curran. Difficulty of avoiding mistakes in advertisements and notes. Example of the former:—"To be sold a gig, the property of a gentleman without a head;" of the latter, a note to Crampton with an hospital patient, "I beg to recommend to your care John —, the coachman of Lord Howth, who is my friend and drowsical." Settled my account with Millikin before dinner. Have drawn upon the Longmans, through him, for 100*l.*, 70*l.* of which I have spent in expenses, and in paying bills for Abbey Street. God only knows

(I again and again say) how I am to get through the difficulties that are before me. Left Millikin's before ten, and supped with my dear mother and sisters; my mother kept up wonderfully to the last, but the great fear is that she will sink after I leave her. Parted with them at twelve; finished my packing, which I had begun before dinner, and did not get to bed till past one.

10th. Started in the mail from the Post Office at seven; arrived at Howth at eight, and sailed almost immediately; took to my berth and was not sick. The passage about seven hours. Dined at Holyhead, and left it in the Oxonian afterwards; crossed Bangor ferry in a storm of sleet, and slept at Jackson's.

11th. Off in the morning at five; arrived at Shrewsbury at six; dined and started again at ten; got to Birmingham at four in the morning; took my place in the York House coach for Bath.

12th. Left Birmingham at a quarter before eight; took a chaise at the Cross Hands between six and seven in the evening, and changing horses at Chippenham, got home to the dear cottage at ten. Found Bessy better than I have seen her for a long time.

13th. Anastasia still at home, and her friend Eliza Branigan with her; all well and happy to see me back again. Found letters from Lord John and Rogers. The former says, "I understand your book has made you many enemies; the nature of the work made that inevitable; but you must console yourself with the public applause." Hughes dined with us.

14th. Walked over to call on Lord Lansdowne; met him in the avenue, setting out on his ride; got off and walked back to the house with me. Took a turn round the pleasure-grounds with me: his expression still is, that I ought to have accepted Lord Wellesley's offer; said that this was also the opinion of Abercrombie, Macdonald, and all those assembled at Bowood when the news came. Talked of the statement of the "Westminster Review" about the Prince having given 4000*l.* to Sheridan; told him I had every reason to think it false. Mentioned the anecdote told me by Lord Holland, on which I founded this persuasion. Said I had better take some opportunity of publishing this, as it was the only fact of any importance brought to impeach my impartiality. The article in question, he

added, evidently not written by any one accustomed to live with gentlemen, or to shape his thoughts by the standard of gentlemanlike society; no gentleman would have published those letters of General Fitzpatrick. Home to dinner at three o'clock, as Bessy meant to give the children their twelfth cake (reserved for my return) in the evening. The Prowses' children, the two Bayntons, and the Phippses made up the party; and rackets and forfeits were the order of the day.

15th. Had written to Hobhouse while I was in Ireland, telling him of my intention to undertake a memoir of Lord Byron, and asking him how far his approval of my undertaking, or his duty as executor, would allow him to assist or co-operate with me in such a work. Wrote to him to-day to announce my return, and to request his answer. Resumed my Greek work for Power.

16th. Sent off some of the verses of the Greek work.

17th. Received Hobhouse's answer; very much what I expected. Says he sees no good in a life of our late friend, and he sees many objections to it. He also puts into the following form the opinion which I understand he has lately held in company, whenever my talent for biography, as exemplified in the "Life of Sheridan," was the topic. "You will write, there can be no doubt, a very clever and very saleable book; but I shall be agreeably surprised, if you should accomplish those higher objects which you must propose to yourself in writing the life of a man like Lord Byron." Concludes his letter by saying that there was a project for a monument to Lord Byron, and that he hoped I would allow my name to be put on the committee for that purpose. Answered his letter and kept a copy of my answer.

18th. Mrs. Branigan arrived to go with us to the Chippenham ball, a foolish engagement, which I had allowed Bessy to make without thinking of its unseasonableness. Lord Lansdowne had called in the morning and said he and Lady L. were going. The ball pretty good. Bowles there, full of his forthcoming pamphlet against the "Quarterly." Home at three. Answered Rogers's letter to-day; forgot to mention that both he and Charles Sheridan informed me of its being confidently said in town, that the King has *ordered* his libra-

rian to review me in the "Quarterly;" there is, however, nothing of it in the last number.

20th. Sent off more verses to Power, making altogether near 150 lines I have done since I returned. Walked over to Bowood, in order to go with Lord Lansdowne to dine at Grosset's. Called at Spy Park in my way and sat some time with Dr. Starkey. Company at Grosset's, the Bowleses, &c.; cold and dull work if Bowles and Lord Lansdowne (not forgetting Mrs. Clutterbuck's eyes) had not enlivened it a little. Obligated to sing. Back to Bowood at night, where I slept.

21st. A pleasant breakfast with Lord and Lady L.; a good deal of talk with him afterwards on the financial prospects of the country. Walked home with me at half-past twelve. Forgot to mention that I received a letter from Power yesterday, approving of my refusal of Lord Wellesley's offer. It is not a little strange that my men of business (Power and the Longmans) take this view of the matter, while all my fine friends think I ought to have accepted the favor. The fact is, the latter always apply a different standard in the conduct of poor men from that which they would go by themselves.

22nd. Went to Church. The Phippses in the evening.

23rd. A reply from Hobhouse, written in a much kinder spirit. I had said in my answer, "Though you make me doubt whether I ought to impose such a confidence on you, I will nevertheless confess that my opinion as to the objections against writing a Life of Lord Byron is very much the same as your own, and that if I can possibly avoid the task, it has all along been my intention to do so." In his letter of to-day, he asks me when I shall be in town, and says, that as we agree upon the biography, he has a plan to propose to me which may enable me "to abandon the design should I be pleased to do so." Cannot think what this is, but fear it will prove to be something I cannot agree to. Resumed my Egyptian romance. Lord Lansdowne called this morning; left me some "Cobbetts" and a note, in which he tells me of the consternation in Edinburgh by the sudden breaking of Constable.

24th. Employed upon my Egyptian story.

25th. Scott, of Devizes, called upon me to go to dinner at Bowood: company, Sir Guy and Lady Campbell, the Bowleses, and Mrs.,

Miss, and Mr. Ricardo. Story of Lord Ellenborough's saying, when Lord — yawned during his own speech, "Come, come, the fellow *does* show some symptoms of taste, but this is encroaching on our province." Lord Ellenborough being once met going out of the House of Lords while Lord — was speaking, "What, are you going?" said the person to him, "Why, yes," answered Lord E., "I am accountable to God Almighty for the use of my time." Talked of Sir David Baird, his roughness, &c. His mother said, when she heard of his being taken prisoner at Seringapatam, and of the prisoners being chained together two and two, "God help the mon that's tied to my Davie." Asked Lady Lansdowne about Mad. de Duras, the writer of "Edouard," which I have just read. She said it was odd that Madame de D., of all people, should write such a book, as her own marriage was a *mésalliance*, and it was even discussed at Holyrood House by the Princes whether they could receive her. Sung in the evening: was made to repeat "There's a Song of the Olden Time" three times. Poor Bowles (who begins to look broken and wandering) said it was "equal to Shakspeare for the words, and to Purcell for the music." They expected me to sleep, but as Scott offered to leave me at home, returned, promising to call on Lord L. to-morrow.

26th. Went to Bowood after breakfast: Lord L. showed me a copy of the letter which he had written to Hobhouse on the subject of the monument, recommending that every thing aristocratical should be avoided in it, and that the tribute should be paid distinctly, *not* to Lord Byron, but to Byron the poet. Showed him the last letter I had from Hobhouse: walked home with me: asked me to dine on Saturday. Answered Hobhouse; and took occasion (in alluding to his mention of some attack made upon me by an American writer for destroying Lord Byron's memoirs) to request he would fulfil the promise he made me, to put in to some written form what he told me once of this subject, namely, that when he last saw Lord Byron, he had given him (Hobhouse) to understand, that he regretted having put such a document out of his own power, and was only restrained by delicacy towards me from recalling the gift.

28th Ditto. Walked over to Bowood to

dinner. In talking of the incentive poverty has always been to talent, Lord L. said, that in the law there is no instance of a man who began in easy circumstances ever rising to great eminence. Lord Camden, he said, was once very near giving up the bar in despair, but a friend of his who was employed with him as senior counsel in some forthcoming cause, entreated him to wait till this cause was decided, and then falling sick (intentionally it is supposed) on the day of the trial, gave his young friend such an opportunity of distinguishing himself, as opened at once that career for which he was evidently destined. Slept at Bowood: after the company went away, some very agreeable conversation with Lord L.: took down a volume of Erskine's Speeches and read me a very noble and striking passage from his defence of Stockdale, in 1790. The skill with which he at the same moment vindicates Hastings and brands the policy of the British government in India is most masterly.

29th. After breakfast a good deal of conversation on the financial prospects of the country. Lord L. quoted an observation of Brougham's, that "We are bound over in a sum of eight hundred millions to keep the peace." Walked with him and Lady L. to call upon Lady Campbell at Calne. Lord L. said that one of the warmest admirers of my "Captain Rock" he ever met was a person I should little suspect, namely, the Russian minister at Paris, Pozzo di Borgo, who told Lord L., "*Je vous assure que ça m'a singulièrement frappé; il y a tant de vérité,*" &c. &c. This was when Lord L. was last in Paris. Mentioned what Foote said to a clergyman, a very dirty fellow, who was boasting of his agricultural labours, "Oh, it's easy to see, sir, you keep your glebe in your own hands." Took leave of them: they start for town to-morrow, and, if possible, leave a warmer impression upon my mind than ever. Nothing can be more perfectly amiable than they are both.

30th. Wrote to Lady Donegal, and sent a whimsical little song, "When Love is kind," to Power. Bessy having told me lately that Mrs. Branigan had mentioned to her something about her brother having large sums of money at his disposal to lend out at interest, and that she was sure, if it would be any convenience to me, he could accommodate me with some, it has struck me that this would be a much

better mode of supplying my present wants than those jobs for Jeffrey and "The Times," which I was thinking of. Forgot by the bye, in reference to this, to mention that about a week ago I wrote to Jeffrey to tell him I was at my wit's end for money, and to ask him whether (if I could hit upon no better mode of raising it) he could advance me a hundred pounds out of the funds allowed for the "Review," and let me work it out in the year. On Saturday (28th) I received his answer, saying, that it was the very thing he was going to write to me about, as he never wanted the help of a "fine, light hand" like mine more than at present, to carry him through the difficulties entailed by Constable's failure. At the same time, in order to "entrap me (as he says) with base money," he incloses a bill for one hundred pounds. This, however, I have locked up, and shall not make use of unless actually obliged. these jobs fritter away my time and thoughts, and are, besides, so disproportionately paid, that I could make tenfold the sum during the time I waste on them. Bessy proposed to set off to Bath to make more particular inquiries of Mrs. B., and ask whether I might write to her brother on the subject. Bowles called: offered to take Bessy on in his carriage to Bath to-morrow, if she will be at Buckhill to meet him.

31st. My Egyptian story.

February 1st. Ditto. Hardman's gig called for me at two to take me to his house to dinner: dressed at Scott's, where I was to sleep: company at Hardman's, Lord and Lady Ashtown, Miss Armstrong, and a Mr. Pipon: rather agreeable: some amusing stories of Lord Balamont; his duel with Lord Townsend; taking off his hat to him when he wounded him. Lord A. mentioned some French remarks upon Pope, in which, on the line "He oped his snuff-box first and then the case," the commentator says, "*Comment peut-on ouvrir une tabatière sans ouvrir l'étui qui la contient?*" Walked home with Scott and slept at his house.

2nd. At breakfast Scott talked of his uncle Lord Clonmell; mentioned his duel with Cuff (afterwards Lord Tyrawley); Grattan was Cuff's second. Scott (Lord C.) proposed swords, being a good swordsman: to this the other side objected, and it was at last agreed that the swords should not be used till after the pistols had failed. Before proceeding to fire, Scott said to

Grattan, "I trust I shall not hear of this in any other way" (meaning by action); to which Grattan answered, "Never fear, *omnis actio personalis moritur cum personâ*." Clonmell never forgave this to Grattan. Said it was all a mistake what Gervais Bushe told me of Grattan's bringing in the Tenantry Bill; it was all Scott's doing; and, from the above-mentioned hostility between them, he does not think Grattan could ever have assisted in it. Hardman's gig brought me home. Found Bessy returned from Bath.

3rd and 4th. Employed on my Egyptian story. Wrote also a squib to send to the "Times," an amatory colloquy between the Bank and the Government."

5th. Sent off the verses to the "Times."

7th. The verses inserted, and a note from Barnes to say, "a thousand thanks for your exquisite piece of pleasantry, which is everywhere admired."

8th and 9th. At work reading for and writing my Egyptian tale. Received an Italian letter from Milan, from a man who is about to publish a splendid edition of the "Corsair," with vignettes, &c. &c. Wrote to Dr. Parr's executor, to beg he would send me Tom's five pounds, as we mean to buy him a share in the lottery with it.

10th and 11th. Wrote two things for Power, "Hark I hear a Spirit sing" and "The Evening Gun;" also a squib about the Sinking Fund for the "Times." Received through the Longmans all Scott's works, the joint present of Sir W. himself and Constable, with a very kind note from the latter. Fear that poor Scott's share in the ruin of Constable's house is even greater than I had supposed. Few things have affected me more than this. I almost regret, indeed, having been brought so close to Scott, as I might otherwise have been saved the deep and painful sympathy I now feel for his misfortune. For poor devils like me (who have never known better) to fag and to be pinched for means, becomes, as it were, a second nature; but for Scott, whom I saw living in such luxurious comfort, and dispensing such cordial hospitality, to be thus suddenly reduced to the necessity of working his way, is too bad, and I grieve for him from my heart. Mrs. Lyon and Mrs. Bowles called. A note from Locke asking us to meet (according to promise) the Bishop of Bath and Wells at din-

ner on Monday. Bessy will not go on account of the expense of a chaise.

13th. Went over to Locke's and dressed there: company, besides the Bishop, the Bouveries, Edmonston, Jerry Awdrey, Mr. Paley (son of the celebrated Paley), &c. The Bishop civil and good-humoured. He mentioned that he remembered Pitt's first going to Cambridge, a very sickly boy, and brought his nurse with him in the carriage. Paley was very near being his tutor, instead of Prettyman, but Paley did not like it. Mrs. Bouverie and her daughter and the young Lockes played in the evening, and I sung a good deal. Paley brought me part of the way home.

14th. Working at my story. Bessy set off in the evening to Buckhill.

15th. Walked to Buckhill at half-past nine: found Bowles waiting for me, and Bessy, and I. and little Tom set off with him to Bath. Dressed at Elwyn's, and he and I and Col. Houlton went together to the Anacreontic dinner: forty-four persons at table; the glees rather dull. Got next to my old friend Sir W. Keir; sung two songs with much applause, and got home to Elwyn's early. Bessy slept at Mrs. Branigan's. E. showed me among Arnault's Fables a comparison of an Egoiste to a Colimaçon, which is very good. Story of the Frenchman worrying Alvanley with praises of Wilberforce. "But," says Alvanley, "W. was the greatest *roué* existing in his young days." "*Quelle espérance pour vous, mitor,*" replied the Frenchman. The French military coxcomb to Talleyrand: "*Nous appelons péquin tout ce qui n'est pas militaire.*" Talleyrand's answer; "*Et nous, nous appelons militaire tout ce qui n'est pas civil.*"

16th. One of the Duncans to breakfast: said it was the principle of such men as Lord Eldon *μη καινεν*. Is there any such a word? there is *καινοποιεειν*; but *καινω*, I think, is to kill.* Mentioned a French poet who boasted of having written all his verses in seclusion and solitude. "Yes," said some one to him, "it is easy to see they are *vers solitaires* being *plats et longs*." Talked of "Bubb Doddington's Memoirs;" nothing so likely to make a man a republican. Houlton knew Wyndham, who published them, and who was much blamed for doing so, he being a relative of Doddington's. Took down the book and looked at the

passage where he describes the different statesmen deceiving each other, "and all for quarter-day." This is capital; *tout pour la tripe*. E. mentioned what Pepys says of the Duke of Lauderdale, "a cunning man, and has the ear of the king," as applicable to the present Lauderdale. In talking of the present pecuniary crisis, turned to Swift's verses about the "run on the bankers" in 1720; full of very elaborate wit. Joined Bessy at Mrs. B's; walked about with her; went to see the giantess and the dwarfs. The giantess a very fine girl, with very feminine manners, and at least seven feet high. Went to Upham's to look for "Ramesses," an Egyptian romance, lately published. Said I believed, from what I had heard, it was but little asked for. Promised to send me a copy. Dined at Mrs. Branigan's: a children's party in the evening, with the intermixture of two or three rather pretty young marriageables. Danced a quadrille with Anastasia, to her great delight, and not a little to my own; was almost the only bean, therefore in great requisition, and danced all night. Back to Elwyn's at twelve.

17th. Set off back again with Bowles (the same party) at one o'clock; arrived at Buckhill at four, where we dined, and I walked home afterwards, leaving Bessy and Tom to sleep there. Bowles told anecdotes on the way, of the steps by which several of our bishops were advanced. Mentioned some lines by John (?) Warton (which I must ask him again to repeat), "Hasten on, hasten on, my bonny grey pad; I have seen the day when thy haste would have made my poor heart glad." Quoted on the subject of resigning *livings* an old monkish couplet—

"In omnibus tuis cogitationibus
Semper caveto de resignationibus."

In talking of the music of Dryden's poetry, Bowles brought as an instance the grand march of the line, "And glittering temples of their hostile gods," coming after the broken and *scintillous* verses that precede it: quoted, also (from his "Virgil" I believe), the line so expressive in its sound, where describing the archer drawing the string of his bow,

"To the head he drew,
And almost bent the horns of his tough yew."

On my return home found letters from Barnes and Lawrence; the latter saying, that there will be no difficulty in procuring the loan for

* There is *καινω*, to make new.

me, if I can wait about three months, when he is sure of having money to that amount at his disposal. Barnes's letter was to thank me for my last contribution, and to say that, "in return for my golden notes they had nothing but thanks and Threadneedle Street rags to offer," and had, accordingly, ordered a hundred pounds to be placed to my credit with Locke and Co. This answers to the account I have always heard of the liberality of the "Times." Happen to have another *jeu-d'esprit* on the anvil for him, which I wrote several verses of in walking about Bath.

18th. Walked after breakfast to meet Bessy, and rejoice her dear heart with the god-send from Barnes, which will enable her to pay some of her bills.

19th. Sent off the squib to Barnes, "An Ode to the Goddess Ceres."

20th and 22nd. Wrote to Lord John Russell, to Sir Walter Scott (to express, as well as I could, what I feel about his late calamity, and to thank him for the books), and to Jeffrey, to tell him he might expect an article from me this next week.

23rd and 25th. Wrote some of my article for the "Review;" wrote, also, a squib for the "Times," "Dialogue between a Sovereign and a One-pound Note;" and two songs, to French airs, for Power, viz. "Smile as You used to do," and "If Thou wouldst have this Heart pronounce Thee fair."

26th. Walked over to Bowood to consult "Sully's Memoirs." Received a letter from Lord John Russell, full of kindness; expresses his regret that I am not so well off in the world as I ought to be, and then says, "If you write (*if I write!*), write poetry, or, if you can find a good subject, write prose; but do not undertake the life of another reprobate. In short, do anything but write the 'Life of Lord Byron.'" This is too worrying; the only work that would enable me to surmount my difficulties is that which (with too much reason) all are against my undertaking.

March 1st. Dined with the Mayor and Corporations of Devizes to celebrate Watson Taylor's election!! My health drunk with much applause. Made a speech which had a good effect. Said that "some years since (staunch Whig as I was) I should have felt myself misplaced in that company; but that at present, under a ministry, who by the liberality of their

government at home, and the truly English front which they presented to the other nations of the world, had conciliated the suffrages of liberal men of all parties, the partition between Whig and Tory, if not removed, was considerably diminished. If there does exist any wall between us, it is like that which of old separated Pyramus and Thisbe; there has been made a *hole* in it, through which we can converse freely, and even sometimes (as we see in the Houses of Parliament) *make love to each other.*" William Salmon afterwards applied this rather skillfully: speaking of W. Taylor, he said, he "would be the last man to narrow that hole, which (according to his friend Mr. Moore's beautiful illustration) had been opened between Whig and Tory," &c. &c. Watson Taylor told me a parody he had lately made with reference to Crabbe, Bowles, and myself, as the three poets of Wiltshire:

"Three poets, at three different ages, born,
Wilt's happy county did at once adorn.
The first in energy of thought surpast,
The next in tenderness, in both the last.
The force of nature could no farther go,
To make *one Moore*, she joined the other two."

3rd. Sent off my article to Jeffrey.

4th to 6th. Worked at my Egyptian story: had half a mind to give it up, and write "Travels of Captain Rock, Jun., in Search of a Religion." A capital subject, but full of perilous matter. Wrote a squib for the "Times," "Expostulation to Lord King." Mrs. Branihan and her four children arrived to pass the week with us.

7th. Sent to Power Jeffrey's bill of exchange for 100*l.* towards taking up my last draft on him for 120*l.* Working away at my story.

9th. Dined at Phipps's, all of us, to meet Trevanion, who is come on a visit to them for a day or two.

10th. Trevanion and Mrs. Phipps dined with us: a salmon from Power in the morning came very seasonably. * * * Trevanion's son lately married to Lord Byron's niece, Miss Leigh.

11th to 13th. Wrote two songs for Power, "Good bye, my Youth, good bye" and "Tis not where Lights are shining." The former, my own air; the latter, a Spanish air, to which I shall, some time or other, write different words, as these are too gloomy for the character of the music. Wrote, also, a squib for the

"Times;" not very good, though there are one or two comical points; but I took a larger canvas than I had time to fill up. By the bye, Lord King has alluded in the House to my last verses. "I have been entreated," he said, "both in prose and verse, to give up exertions on this subject," &c. &c.

15th. Wrote a joint letter to our dearest Anastasia, on her birth-day, which will be to-morrow. Called her "my dearest Sheelah," which, by the bye, is the name she was very near being christened by, the 16th being Sheelah's day.

16th to 18th. At work at my story.

19th. Sent off a squib to the "Times;" pretty good; called "Memorabilia of last week." Wrote at the same time to Barnes, to say (which is the case) that I find this diversion of my mind to fun and satire draws me off too much from my other tasks. Every newspaper I read starts a crowd of whimsical thoughts and jokes, which, till I *lay* some of them with my pen, haunt and tease me as the little devils did St. Anthony; so that I fear I must soon give it up entirely. Dined with Dr. Starkey to meet Mr. Smith, who comes to do duty for Prowse. A letter from Jeffrey, to say that he means to give an account of my "Life of Sheridan" in the next "Edinburgh;" and asking me whether I had any explanation or information, which I should like to take this opportunity of communicating.

20th to 24th. Our dear Russell not very well; had King to him. Asked King to dine with us on the 25th, the anniversary of our marriage. A letter from Barnes, saying they will miss me sadly, and hoping it will not be for long.

25th. The Phippses, Miss Bailey, King, and Hughes: a very merry day. Heaven send us a long series of such!

27th. Sent off two songs to Power: "I would tell her I love her;" and "Spring and Autumn." Mrs. Branigan arrived with our dearest Anastasia to stay till Wednesday.

28th. Went to the Devizes ball with Bessy and Mrs. Branigan. Home between two and three.

April 8th. Head full of pains and much depression. Have worked this week at my Egyptian story. Received a present of Erskine's speeches from Lord Lansdowne, beautifully bound. This was in consequence of my

having said the night before he left Bowood, that I had not this collection in my library. Very kind and thoughtful. Says in his postscript, "I never read a better dialogue than the 'Sovereign and Pound,' and all *selon les principes*, to which poetry is not often tied." Rather nervous to find that these squibs are taken for granted to be mine.

9th. Much better. Sent off a squib to the "Times," "A Hymn of Welcome after the Recess."

10th. Wrote a song for Power and sent it off. "Fair One, choose between the Two."

11th. At work at my story.

12th. Received the "Quarterly Review," which contains the long-threatened cannonade against my "Sheridan;" more noisy and less effective than I expected. Has added but little to what was in the "Westminster." Sent off another squib—"All in the Family Way."

13th to 15th. Bowles called. Thinks what is said in the "Quarterly" about the King "plausible;" this is what it was meant to be. Wrote to Lord John Russell about his reception at St. Ives. Bennett called on the night of the 15th on his way to Phipps's, and sat some time. Pressed us both to go up to town to his house, which (from his wife's illness) he will have all to himself.

16th. Heard from Power that Rees means to pay us a visit in a few days. Wrote to Rees to tell him we were going to Bath on Tuesday for two or three days. Have somewhat changed my mind with respect to the "Quarterly," and think it will be as well to take some notice of it. Wrote to Charles Sheridan on the subject.

17th. Wrote to Dr. Bain to beg of him to give me an attestation under his signature to the correctness of my account of the 200*l.* sent by the Prince through Vaughan, he and Vaughan being my authorities on the subject. He cannot, I think, refuse, and I shall thus be able to throw those fellows completely on their backs. Have been a good deal idled these few days past.

18th. A letter from Lord John: thinks I had better make some reply to the reviews. Says, "your verses in the 'Times' are excellent, but you must not let them appear too often." This, I dare say, is in consequence of my last, which was not so good as the others. I made a mistake of idiom, too, throughout it,

putting "all in *the family way*" instead of "in *a family way*." Clutterbuck's gig came for us at twelve, took me to Harnish (Hardenhuish): walked about the grounds with him and his pretty wife: showed me the church where Ricardo lies buried. After luncheon Clutterbuck and I set off in his carriage for Bath. Took up my quarters at Monkland's; called on Anastasia and found her well. Dinner at Monkland's: company, Simpson, Clutterbuck, Blood, &c. Company in the evening, Tom Bailey's intended wife and himself. Sung a good deal with much success: also some good glees by Blood, Broadhurst, Williams, &c. Slept at Monkland's: read before I went to bed a pamphlet by my old acquaintance Maugin, entitled, "Letter to Thomas Moore, esq., on the subject of the 'School for Scandal.'"

19th. Paid some bills; made calls. Took Anastasia to Mrs. Branigan's, and on our way were overtaken by Bessy, just arrived with Bowles. Left Bessy to her shopping. Called upon Maugin; on Lady Burdett; on Young, to ask him to dine with the Anacreontic to-day. Forty-one or forty-two sat down to dinner. Lord Blayney at the right of the chairman and I at the left; Young next me. Day very agreeable. In talking of nervousness Young said it was but within the last four years he has been able to get rid of it on the stage, and that any one who had observed his acting closely, would observe the great change there has been in that interval. My imitation of Curran, he said, was the most perfect mimicry he had ever witnessed. My health given in a most flattering speech by the chairman, and applauded tumultuously for some minutes: returned thanks with much success. Some good glees by professional men, and a Mr. Hallet, an amateur. A song of Tom Bailey's written for the club, rather happy. I sung: very ill the first song, but redeemed myself in "The Watchman," and produced great effect. Received a letter from Lady Burdett, regretting she did not see me to-day, and asking me to call to-morrow; fixed half-past one. A note also from Col. Napier, who had followed me hither from Sloperon, on the subject of Battle House (at Bromham), which he wishes to take. Had to answer both notes from the table. Left for the fancy ball at 10 o'clock; too late for Tom Bailey's epilogue. The *coup d'œil* as usual here beautiful; the details, as

far as women went, not so good; two or three, however, very pretty; Miss Stuart, a daughter of Admiral Stuart, whom I had my full fling of staring at, till some one told her who I was, when she turned the tables on me.

20th. Breakfasted at Mrs. Branigan's with Bessy. On my way thither met Ethel Bennett, who I found had been *incog.* in the gallery last night, looking down on her sister beauties, and wishing herself among them. Went with Upham to the Literary Institution to look through some books for particulars of Trajan's pillar, at the request of Hughes, whose son is about to write on this subject for a prize. Turned over Grævius with the assistance of the useful index in the catalogue of the Royal Institution; also Montfaucon, &c., but found nothing. Ciacconius was the work I wanted. Thence to Lady Burdett's, where I stayed a short time; they are going to the Continent this summer. Went to Young at Mr. Winsor's, in order to hear Miss Winsor sing; nothing could be more charming or more full of true feeling both of words and music. The things she sung were Bishop's, from my "Loves of the Angels," and, as she gave them, exquisite. "By those impassioned eyes" was spoken just as it ought to be. Went at four with Bessy to hear our sweet Anastasia attempt the harp, which she had been learning but a fortnight: a very good promise.

21st. Breakfasted at Monkland's. Bessy left Bath with Bowles at twelve, and I afterwards in a coach at three. Got to Buckhill at six, where I found Bessy. Had a chaise and home. The "Edinburgh Review" does not contain the article promised me by Jeffrey.

22nd. Immediately after breakfast Colonel Napier arrived to look at Bromham House; an able man; is employed in writing an account of the campaigns in the Peninsula. * * * * Mentioned what old West said of the people of England, that they judge of music by the eye, and of painting by the ear. In talking of phrenology, said that the Duke of Wellington has not the organ of courage, but has that of fortitude or resolution very strongly. The Duke owned himself that this corresponded to his character. I mentioned having heard that the only time the Duke was hit, which was by a spent ball, the blow affected him very much and made him very sick. Napier said he himself was by at the time, but the blow

was a very severe one, and that instant sickness is a very frequent effect of such a wound. I said it was rather against phrenology that I should not have the organ of music, as if there was any feeling more strong than another that I had, it was that for music. He agreed I had but little of it. The Duke of Wellington, it appears, has it very strong, and this is so far borne out (Napier says) that he is a passionate lover of music. Walter Scott, it seems, has *not* the poetic organ, and Napier appeared to think he had no right to it. Wordsworth, he says, has it very strongly. What stuff is talked on this subject! Liked Battle House very much, and if Dr. Starkey is agreeable, will take it. Received Dr. Bain's answer, with the note, on the subject of the 200*l.* as I desired.

23rd. Called upon Dr. Starkey about the house for Colonel Napier. Walked with Bessy in the evening to drink tea at Phipps's.

24th to 27th. Employed chiefly in drawing up my answer to the "Quarterly," which I mean to put in the form of an extract from my intended preface to the fifth edition of the "Life," and insert it in the "Times." Wrote also some verses for the "Times," in which there is, I think, a good deal of fun. "The Canonization of St. Butterworth." A long letter from Barnes, telling me that he keeps the secret, but that they are generally guessed to be mine.

28th. Sent off my verses to Barnes.

29th. Wrote a verse of a song for Power, "When Night brings the Hour."

30th. Copied out my article on the "Quarterly," and sent it off. A letter from Benett to say that he will have every thing ready for me at his house in town on Wednesday; has been very anxious that Bessy should come up too, as he has his house all to himself, but the dear girl is wise enough to stay where she is. Trevanion called after church with the Phippses; is going to town on Tuesday, and would have taken me in his carriage with him if I had not engaged to go in the coach with Locke on Wednesday.

May 1st. Walked to Spye Park. Wrote a verse of a song for Power, "Oh Death!"

2nd. Busy in preparing for my journey. After dinner set off (with Bess and little Buss to see me part of the way) for Locke's. The evening delightful, and, after we separated,

both parties stopped often to have one more parting look of each other. Drank tea at Locke's; listened to his girls playing the "Preciosa," and the overture to "Tancredi," and then to bed.

3rd. Up at seven; got to Devizes before ten, and had to wait some time for the Emerald. Had, in the meantime, some conversation with an intelligent young farmer on the consequences of letting out the bonded corn, &c. Journey nothing remarkable; Locke and I gossiped about our neighbours the whole way. Arrived at Benett's at eight.

4th. Not at all well. Found notes on my arrival last night from Lord Lansdowne and Lord John. The former to ask me, "before I should be swallowed up," to dine with him on Monday; the latter sending me a note of Lady Jersey's, begging me to leave out Lord J.'s name (in my next edition) among the attendants at Sheridan's funeral, as he was *not* there. Lord L. in his note says, "The statement in the 'Times' is *very* satisfactory." A note this morning from Rogers asking me to join Lord John and him at breakfast; sent word I should come after breakfast. Found there, besides Lord John, Milman and his very handsome wife, old Crowe, and Miss Rogers. Rogers's story of Dean Shipley getting into his carriage with about a dozen children, and giving a sixpence to a beggar-woman as he went in. "God be with you," said the beggar-woman. "God forbid, my good woman," said the Dean; "there's quite enough of us already." Both Rogers and Lord John seemed to think my answer to the "Quarterly" quite conclusive. Went from thence to Lady Donegal's; she still confined: sat with Barbara and Miss Godfrey some time. While I was there Lord Clifden came in, full of the last squib in the "Times," "Butterworth's Canonization," which he produced, cut out of the paper, from his pocket; looked as if he had but little doubt it was mine. I volunteered to read it. Miss G., while I went on, charged me with it *direct*, but I denied as well as I could. Went to call on Mrs. Purvis: met the Speaker on my way; asked him to let me come under the gallery to-night, to hear the Corn debate. Said, with great pleasure. Dined at Lady Donegal's; thence to the House of Commons; no Corn debate, but Hume entering upon an interminable speech. Resolved to

try another place of amusement, Astley's; but found it almost as dull as the House of Commons.

5th. Breakfasted at the Athenæum. Called in Paternoster Row; some talk about Lord Byron's Life. Told them of my correspondence on the subject with Hobhouse: promised to dine with Rees. Thence to Power's. Dined with Rees, and both went together to Covent Garden to see "Oberon." Not much pleased with it; the music in general more odd than agreeable; and, when pleasing, not very new.

6th. Breakfasted with Lord John. Talked of my Sheridan Life; regarded in general, he says, as an attack upon the Whigs. Lady Grey urges Lord Grey to leave on record his own statement of the circumstances in 1811. Lord Grey himself takes it very quietly. Said that it was evident I was not a Whig; for, though my views were strongly on the side of liberty, they were not modified by those constitutionalities and legalities with which a Whig fenced round his principles. Seemed to consider my remarks on Coalition as an instance of this. Lord Holland says it is plain I am not disposed to agree with Mr. Fox in any thing, and it is not likely I should. This is surely unjust. Lord John thinks there is nothing on record more honourable to Mr. Fox than the letter which I have produced relative to the Catholic petition in 1805; but is still of opinion that my book does not leave the reputation of Mr. Fox altogether so high as it found it. A note from Lady Elizabeth Belgrave, sending me an Opera ticket for to-night; Lord Belgrave himself called afterwards. Dined at the Artists' Benevolent Fund, of which I was a steward; the Chancellor of the Exchequer in the chair;* sat near Campbell; Shee on the other side of me. Was told yesterday that my name was on the list of toasts, but found now there was no intention of giving it. Many messages sent to Shee to request he would propose my health: at length, just as Robinson was leaving the chair, Shee rose, and in a long speech gave the healths of "Thomas Moore and Thomas Campbell." Received with acclamation. Previous to this the feelings of the company had been shown towards me by the enthusiasm with which they received and encored "Sing, sing," sung by Broadhurst. My speech, in returning thanks, very effective. Robinson

* Mr. Robinson, now Lord Ripon.

made the *amende honorable* before he went, by thanking the gentleman who had given the healths of the two "eminent individuals," and praising us for our "eloquent and glowing speeches."

7th. Called upon Rogers: found him in high good humour. In talking of Miss White he said, "How wonderfully she does hold out: they may say what they will, but Miss White and Missolonghi are the most remarkable things going." Called upon Lady E. Belgrave, Lord Lansdowne, and Lady Cawdor. Dined at Lord Listowel's; the Beechers, Newton, and their own family. Sang in the evening. Asked by Edward Moore to dine with him on Tuesday to meet the Catholic Lord Stafford and Lord Fingall.

8th. Breakfasted at home with Bennett, who is all kindness and hospitality. Went at eleven to the Royal Institution to hear McCulloch's lecture, having met him since I came to town, and promised to do so. A very kind note from Lady Jersey, in answer to one I wrote her asking for some tickets for the Spitalfields' ball, which she has sent me. In the evening to Lady Jersey's: a little nervous to see how my Whig friends would receive me; all as usual. A cordial shake by the hand from Lord Grey. The Duke of Wellington looked as if he was inclined to renew his acquaintance with me, but I was not courtier enough to avail myself of the inclination. Lord Hertford too bowed graciously to me, but as I knew it must be by mistake, I met it with a profound reverence, and on raising my head again I saw that he looked disconcerted: was never at any time acquainted with him. Heard to-day that when Canning's speech the other night threw all the country gentlemen into consternation, Bobus Smith said, "a brand among the bullocks." On one of the country gentlemen saying, "we must return to the food of our ancestors," somebody asked, "What food does he mean?" "Thistles, I suppose," said Tierney. Lady Cawdor asked me to dine to-morrow to meet the Marquis of Stafford and Mr. Grenville, but am engaged to Lord Auckland. Curiously enough, have been asked likewise to meet the other Lord Stafford at Moore's. Walked home with Fielding.

9th. Lady Listowel and Lady Ennismore called to take me to the Exhibition. Left them at two to go to Bishop on music business.

Found he had done nothing, but gave him some ideas with respect to the airs he has to compose for my Greek work. Was to have gone with Trevanion to call upon Mrs. Ames, a great admirer and singer of my music, but was prevented by my engagement with Bishop. Dined at Lord Auckland's: Baring Wall, and Miss Barnett, the company. From thence to the Opera: had bought a ticket in the morning, but brought from home and gave instead of it a card, "Marchioness of Lansdowne at home," insisting to the man, when he questioned it, that I had bought it at Eber's in the morning. Was obliged to pay again, he promising to return me the money when I should bring the right ticket. Went first into Lady Cowper's box, where there was only Lord Sefton. Saw the second act in Lady Farquhar's box.

10th. While Benett and I were at breakfast, M. Alexandre, the conjuror (who has brought letters of introduction to me from Ireland), paid me a visit, and amused us very much by some specimens of his ventriloquism. Went to the General Post Office for a letter; then to Longman's. Dined at the Literary Fund, having in vain endeavoured to extricate myself, but Rees made it a point that I should go. The Duke of Somerset in the chair. On the "Poets of Great Britain" being given, there was a general call through the room for me, but as Sotheby and Croly were present, I resolved not to take upon myself the task of returning thanks. After a long interval Sotheby rose, and began by an eulogium upon me, in which he said my "prose took the colour of my poetry" (some people would have added "too much so"). I was in hopes that I had escaped a speech, but Sir J. Malcolm soon after proposed my health alone, praising "Lalla Rookh" most abundantly. My speech in returning thanks even more successful than that at the Artists' dinner.

11th. Called upon Bowles in my way to breakfast with Newton; took him with me. Sat to Newton after breakfast. Wretched reports of my speech in all the papers. When I was leaving the dinner yesterday evening, a young reporter of the "Times" addressed me, and said I would do him the greatest favour if I would assist in some points of my speech, which he had not caught correctly. Told him he could not do me a greater favour than not

to attempt to report my speech at all; praise what I said as much as he pleased, but not make any attempt to give it. The "Times," accordingly, has done what I wished. Went with Benett to Deville's, in the Strand, the phrenologist and collector of casts; called for Sir Francis Burdett in our way at Brookes's. After having explained to us the principles of the science, he proceeded to examine our heads. Had some suspicion who Burdett was, but did not know me in the least. Found no poetry in my head, but a great love of facts and clearness in argument; humour, love of music, strong feelings of friendship (this Spurzheim too, I remember, remarked when I met him at Paris), a facility in parting with money, and "not being very particular as to the securities" (his very words, which amused the standers-by not a little), and the organs of combativeness and destructiveness as strong as ever he had witnessed them in any one. On Benett's asking him, whether he discovered in my head any particular talent, said, that he had seldom seen a head with "so active and general an organisation," and that whatever the person possessing it attempted, he would most probably succeed in. Told Burdett some things which he seemed to think true; among others, that his first perceptions of subjects were slow and rather confused, and that it was not till after some consideration he mastered and saw his way through them. A sense of justice and impatience under oppression was one of the features of Burdett's head, which he found also in mine. Went all together to the Exhibition. Burdett's criticism on Lawrence's picture of Canning, that it is "like an actor standing before a glass rehearsing his part," rather just. Forgot, with all this, an engagement I had made to Barnes. Dined at the Donegal's: poor Lady D. herself not able yet to see me. Thence to the Opera, Lady Farquhar having given me a ticket: saw the greater part of the opera in Lady E. Belgrave's box; Lady Wilson there. Went thence to the Countess St. Antonio's, where Lady Burghersh was, and sat some time. A new "Romeo and Juliet" arrived, composed by —, I forget the name. Lady B. trying to persuade Pasta to introduce some of the music of it in the old one. Went afterwards to Lansdowne House, where there were some new beauties: Lady Clifton, Mrs. Napier (with whom, as Miss Benett, I played shuttle-

cock, two or three years since, at Bowood) pronounced to be the prettiest woman of the season.

12th. Went to Lord Radstock's sale; thence to British Gallery with Bowles. Called with him upon Sir George Beaumont, who showed me his portraits of Garrick (in a scene of *Lethe*) and of Parsons. Dined at Longman's: McCulloch, Newton, Kenny, &c. &c.

13th. Lady Listowel called to take me to the Water Colour Exhibition: a very pretty picture there from "Lalla Rookh," by Stephano. Dined at A. Baring's; his purchases from Lord Radstock's collection just brought home. The Titian (Herodias's daughter), price 1800 guineas; and a Giorgione, 700; the latter a charming picture. Company, Agar Ellis and Lady Georgiana, Lord Lothian, &c. Some anecdotes of Grattan. On the night when it was probable the Catholic question would be carried said, "What shall we do? we'll get very drunk." Ellis described him, on one night when he spoke, as dragging in with him a large bag, which contained, in the first place, heaps of petitions on the subject, then quantities of oranges, and a bottle full of water, which he drank during his speech. Wilberforce was at one time in the habit of eating and drinking in his place in the House.

14th. Have exchanged visits and some notes with Hobhouse, but did not see him till to-day. Found him full of kindness, and inclined much more to assist than to thwart me in my design of writing "Byron's Life." Mentioned Byron's letters to Lady Melbourne, which Lady Cowper has still in her possession, and which he thinks more likely to contain passages fit to be extracted than any other of B.'s correspondence. Disclaimed ever having had the idea of writing the "Life" himself; thinks there are no materials to make a life, which I fear is but too true. Talked of Burdett's opinions on the corn laws, on the present distresses, &c. Said I thought them very vague and adrift. Thence went to Barnes, with whom I had made an appointment between two and four. A good deal of conversation. Sounded him on the probability of an advance of 400*l.* being made to me by the proprietors of the "Times." Said he had little doubt it would be done. Dined at Chantrey's; had been engaged to Fielding's, but was let off on a promise of going early in the evening. Company, Henry

Joy, a Mr. Thompson, and two others. Talked of phrenology; Spurzheim's mistake at Chantrey's, in pronouncing Troughton* from his skull to be a poet, and Sir Walter Scott a mathematician. Chantrey at first inclined to believe in the science, but from seeing, from his experience, that there were clever heads of all sizes and shapes, lost his faith in it. An intimation of phrenology in Shakspeare's "fore-heads villainously low." Went to Fielding's early; found there Mrs. Ames, for whom I sung, apparently to her very great delight.

17th. To Power's on business. Called upon Lady Cowper; said she had for some time thought of giving those letters of Lord Byron's back, and would now, as soon as she could get them from the country, put them into my hands or Hobhouse's; said she thought it very possible that there were many passages in them that would do for publication. Called upon the Houltons; desperate wet weather; drove out with Mrs. Houlton and Mrs. Shirley, who is looking in high beauty. Having to dine with Rogers to-day at six (an Ancient Music party), meant to have dined with Lady Davy *afterwards* to meet Sydney Smith; but Rogers would not have me, he said, upon such terms; "there would be an indigestion produced." This being the case, tried my chance of a ticket for the Ancient Music, by leaving a note at Lord Darnley's. Mrs. Shirley undertook to change my voucher at Almack's, while I went home to dress. Company at Rogers's, Miss Stephens and her niece, Sir G. Beaumont, Sir P. Codrington, and Sir G. Warrender. During dinner a ticket came for me from Lord Darnley, an order to "admit Signor Mori" (a foreigner's ticket, which the directors are privileged to give); the selection very dull, and the room oppressively hot. Had some talk with Mrs. Boddington, and her very pretty little daughter, and then home to refresh my toilette for Almack's. Had heard that the fancy quadrille of the "Twelve Months" that was danced at the Spitalfields' ball last week was to be repeated to-night; but the sister of Miss Crofton (one of the months) has died since then, and it is given up. The quadrille of "Paysannes Provençales," however, was danced. Some pretty girls among them; a daughter of Lord Talbot's, Miss Duncombes,

* The well-known maker of philosophical instruments: himself a mathematician of a high order.—Ed.

&c. &c. Mrs. Sheridan's second daughter strikingly like old Brinsley, and yet very pretty. Some anecdotes to-day at dinner of the Duke of Wellington: battle of Toulouse the most remarkable of any. The movement by which he won it determined on in consequence of his trying by chance a glass that was recommended to him, and, in looking at Soult, seeing some motions of his hand which showed in what direction he was about to act.

18th. Met Hobhouse, and went with him to call on Sir F. Burdett, who is laid up with gout. Went afterwards with Benett to the Houltons, to take them to Deville's; dreadfully wet weather, no end to the rain. Called on Bowles in our way, and took him with us. Deville's examination of the heads of the girls very interesting, particularly as he made them let loose their long hair, which added not a little to their beauty. Bowles, at first, a good deal unsettled by the sight of the casts after death, and was, with much difficulty, persuaded to submit his head to inspection: some good guesses of Deville's about him soon put him in good humour. While we were there a mother came with her little boy to have his head examined; and Deville told us he has had since he began about seven hundred mothers in the same way, bringing their children for the purpose of ascertaining what course of education their organs were best suited to. Dined at Lansdowne House: company, the Agar Ellises, the Cawdors, Sydney Smith, Mr. Portman, Macdonnel, &c. A party to hear Pasta in the evening. Sat with Lady Cawdor and Lady Wilton most of the night; Lord Grey and his daughters very kind. Found a note from Mrs. Coutts on my return home, full of anxious inquiries as to the death of Lady Scott, which is mentioned in the evening papers.

19th. Called upon Mrs. Coutts; found her breakfasting at the top of the house, in consequence of the preparations below stairs for her great ball next Monday. Showed me all over her house, bedrooms, closets, every where. Called upon the Storys, who are but a few days in town. Went at three to a lecture at the Royal Institution, the consequence of a promise I made to Gen. Thornton; the subject, music. Have a great mind to lecture myself; Lord Spencer many a year ago wanted me to do so; Houlton wrote to sound me on

the subject before I left home; and now both Thornton and the secretary of the Institution renew the request: it is, at least, worth consideration. Had some business in the evening, therefore dined alone at the Bedford coffee-house. Afterwards dressed and went to Mrs. Cunliffe's child's ball, where there were some very pretty children. Thence to Mrs. Baring's grand ball, which was full and splendid.

20th. Went to Agar Ellis's at one, to meet Lords Lansdowne and Cawdor, and Sydney Smith, a rendezvous fixed the day before yesterday, in order to go all together to Deville's: his explanations of the principles of his art, and some of the facts he produced, very striking to us all: instances where the organ was considerably increased by the exercise of the faculty connected with that organ, &c.; but his guesses at the characters of the new subjects I brought him (none of whom he knew) egregious failures. For instance, said that Lord Lansdowne gave his opinions without deliberation! In Sydney Smith the chief propensity he discovered was a fondness for natural history, and for making collections of the same. Altogether this was the worst exhibition I have seen him make, though very amusing from Sydney Smith's inextinguishable and contagious laughter, which I joined in even to tears. Was to have dined with Ponsonby to-day, but went, instead, to Sir S. Raffles: asked to sing in the evening, but between could not and would not, did not: my cold very bad; got home early to bed.

21st. Called upon Lord John after breakfast: mentioned my having some idea of reviewing his "History of the Affairs of Europe" for the "Edinburgh," notwithstanding that I had often resolved never to review the work of a friend, as it was always a ticklish, and generally turned out a thankless task. Proposed to me to go and see Lord Kinnaird at Hammersmith: agreed, and went with him to leave his excuses at Lady Jersey's, with whom he was to have gone to the private exhibition at Somerset House. Had luncheon at Mrs. Purvis's (where I found Lord Auckland), and rejoined Lord John at three, when we set out in his cabriolet for Hammersmith. Shocked beyond description at the appearance of Lord Kinnaird, whom I had not seen since his paralytic attack; such a sad instance of premature decrepitude, and the liveliness of

manner which he still preserves, makes it only more frightful: was evidently very glad to see me, which made me feel happy that I had come. Lord John and I got back about five. Dined at Boddington's: company, Sydney Smith, Dr. Wollaston, Sharpe, Henry Webster, &c. &c.

22nd. Forgot to mention that when I last saw Hobhouse, he asked me whether it was "upon the cards" that I should make up with Murray: said that Murray had often talked to him on the subject, &c. I answered that I should have no objection; that I had always felt that I had committed a mistake originally in refusing the overtures of reconciliation which he made on the day when he offended me: that I ought (as Rogers often said) to have gone into his shop as usual, and not conferred upon him such importance as to make him an object of my resentment: I was therefore very ready, I said, to go with either Hobhouse or Rogers to his house to proffer him my hand, and let there be no more of it. I afterwards spoke to Rogers on the subject, who quite agreed with this view of the matter, and said he would go with me some day to Murray's. This morning, as I stood at Power's door, saw Murray go by; and it occurred to me that, as the thing was to be done, the shortest and manliest way was to do it at once myself, without any intervention. Accordingly sallied out after my man and accosted him. He seemed startled at first, but on my saying, "Mr. Murray, some friends of yours and mine seem to think that you and I should no longer continue upon these terms, I therefore proffer you my hand, and most readily forgive and forget all that has passed;" he soon brightened up into smiles, and we walked on together very amicably. On our parting at Charing Cross he shook my hand, reiterating, "God bless you, sir! God bless you, sir!" and hoped I would call and see my portrait at his house in Whitehall. Had not time for much to-day, as I was obliged to dress early for Lord Belgrave's. Lord Lansdowne sent his carriage for me at twenty minutes before five; when I came to take him up, found that Lady Lansdowne could not accompany us, her sister was so ill. Company at Lord B.'s, the Cawdors, Mr. Grenville, and ourselves. To the play: "Paul Pry;" very amusing, but had heard too much of it: many of our party had seen it before, and still laugh-

ed hearty, which was no small tribute. Came away after the play: left at home by the Cawdors, and sallied out again for Mrs. Shirley's assembly: heard Isabella Houlton play her wild Spanish air; and came away with the Wilsons, who set me down at Lady Jersey's, where I did little more than make my bow, and then set off for Mrs. Coutts's ball, where I found quadrilles going on in one room, and Braham and Miss Stephens singing in another.

23rd. Breakfasted with Newton, and sat to him: went together to the National Gallery, from thence to West (the American painter) to see Lord Byron's portrait: had only the copy at home, which did not strike me as like. Met Lord Lansdowne, and heard from him that there is but little hope of Lady Charlotte. Dined at Rogers's; Lord John having called for me in his cabriolet: company, Barnes, Kenney, Lord Lansdowne, Sharpe, Brougham, Lord John and myself: very agreeable: Brougham's tone a good deal subdued (as it has been, I hear, all this session), but social, natural, and agreeable as usual: went home early.

24th. Went to join Rogers at Lord Stafford's gallery: introduced to Danby, the painter: *ciceronied* very agreeably round the rooms by Rogers, upon whose taste I have more dependence than on that of any of the connoisseurs that are about.

25th. Breakfasted with the Donegals. Obligated to dress early for the anniversary dinner of the Madrigal Society; a scrape (as it turned out) which I was brought into by Bowles, who long ago made some agreement with me to go, and now left me in the lurch; never was there any thing so bad; three-and-thirty fellows bawling away for the bare life at old exploded madrigals, and singing them all wrong into the bargain: attempted to perform a madrigal of Wesley's, who was present, but they had not proceeded three bars before the author exclaimed, "Oh! for God's sake, gentlemen, no more, I cannot bear it." Tried one of poor Linley's too (my inviter), and produced the same sort of explosion from the author. Got away as soon as I could; glad to have seen a new instance of the strange whimsical things that are going on in London, but determined never to repeat the experiment. Went to Miss White's, where I was so early that the ladies had not come up from dinner. Left my card at Murray's to-day.

26th. Went to breakfast with Barnes, from whom I some days since received a letter to say that the advance of the £400 would most willingly be made: told me that last year, when we had the same sort of agreement in contemplation, Walter could not be altogether brought to understand that it was *tanti* to the paper; but that now, since he perceived the sensation which my late contributions had produced, he was quite convinced of the importance of my assistance. This was gratifying to hear. Talked of the French newspapers. The "Journal des Débats," he considers, altogether, one of the best conducted papers in Europe: Bertin one of the proprietors: vast expenses attending it; thirteen or fourteen people employed on it (I think, he said) at an average of 12,000 francs, annually, each. Barnes was the college competitor with Matthews (Lord Byron's friend), of whom Byron speaks in a note. Went afterwards to Longman's: mentioned to them my conversations with Hobbhouse and Rogers, and my reconciliation with Murray (who, by the bye, has not yet taken any notice of my visit to him). On my mentioning what Hobbhouse said of the possibility of a coalition between Murray and their house in publishing the life, Longman said, "Do not let us stand in the way of any arrangements you may make; it is our wish to see you free from debt; and it would only be in this one work that we should be separated: put us, therefore, out of the question; nor let us in the least degree fetter you in the business." This I felt to be most liberal and considerate; and such, I must say, their conduct to me has been throughout. Dined at Sir George Beaumont's; taken by the Bowleses: company, they, Mr. and Mrs. Sturges Bourne, and Ottley. Sturges Bourne, in talking of Canning, rather agreeable. The translation of Jekyll's "Sage Chankiti" was by Canning and Lord Grenville; *vos inumbrelles rideo* is the only good point in it; the rest any schoolboy might have done. Sturges Bourne repeated some more of Jekyll's verses, but there is nothing in them near so good as those I already know, with the exception, perhaps, of

"You'll please to remember
Your month called November,
Which we call Hum-Sang, is rheumatic."

Went in the evening to Lady Dacre's. Sturges Bourne, by the bye, told of Canning, that at a

dinner at Etou last year, after "The Ministers of Etou" had been given as a toast, Canning gave, in allusion to Tom Tyrerwhit, who was present, "The *Rods* of Etou."

27th. Breakfasted at Rogers's: Sydney Smith, Lord Cawdor, G. Fortescue, and Warburton. Smith full of comicality and fancy; kept us all in roars of laughter. In talking of the stories about dram-drinkers catching fire, pursued the idea in every possible shape. The inconvenience of a man coming too near the candle when he was speaking, "Sir, your observation has caught fire." Then imagined a parson breaking into a blaze in the pulpit; the engines called to put him out; no water to be had, the man at the waterworks being an Unitarian or an Atheist. Said of some one, "He has no command over his understanding; it is always getting between his legs and tripping him up." Left Rogers's with Smith, to go and assist him in choosing a grand pianoforte: found him (as I have often done before) change at once from the gay, uproarious way, into as solemn, grave, and austere a person as any bench of judges or bishops could supply: this I rather think his natural character. Called with him at Newton's to see my picture: said in his gravest manner, to Newton, "Couldn't you contrive to throw into his face somewhat of a stronger expression of hostility to the Church establishment?" Went with him from thence to two pianoforte makers: chose one at Broadwood's. Left him in the Strand to call at Power's. Called upon Rogers before dinner, and walked in the Park with him. In talking of my situation with the Longmans, he said, "The fact is, the Longmans, having you in their power, are resolved to make a slave of you —." Here I stopped him, and begged, before he went any farther, he would let me tell him what passed between me and Longman yesterday; upon hearing it, he said, "I retract every thing that I was going to accuse them of; it is, indeed, very fair and liberal of them." Dined at Lord Fortescue's: company, the Granville Vernons, Adair, Lady Mary and her husband, &c. &c. Went from thence to Miss White's; Mrs. Sheridan there and her pretty daughter.

28th. Newton called, and went with me to Stevens's, where I breakfasted. From thence went to call upon Hobbhouse, who told me that Murray had, immediately on my visit to him, come to know from him (Hobbhouse) on what

terms he and I were with respect to the "Life." Hobhouse told him all that had passed between us, and suggested that the "Life" written by me should be prefixed to the quarto edition of "Byron's Works" which Murray meditates. Murray had originally proposed to Hobhouse to edit the work. I now mentioned what Longman had said to me a day or two before, which Hobhouse appeared much pleased at; and said it would facilitate the object of us all considerably. Suggested (what is also my own idea) that the "Life" should consist as much as possible of extracts from Byron's letters and journals, making him tell his own story. H. praised Count Gamba's book. Has never read a line of any of the letters he has in his hands as executor. Dined at Lord Cowper's: Rogers, who was going to dine with the Attorney-General in the same street, dropped me at Lord C.'s. Company: Mr. Grenville, Lord Auckland, Lord Robert Spencer, Lord and Lady King, Lady Carlisle, H. Pierrepont, &c. Very agreeable. Mr. Grenville said that the city of Edinburgh ordered a bust of his father in the year 1764, to be executed by Bacon; but Mr. Grenville being turned out of the Ministry soon after, the bust was left upon Bacon's hands.

29th. Breakfasted with Newton for a final sitting. On my return home found Murray's card, with a message that he would be glad to see me any time to-day. Called upon him between one and two: entered at once on the subject of the "Life;" told him what the Longmans had said as to leaving me free; and added what I felt and thought of the handsomeness of their conduct altogether to me. He replied, that he had no doubt they had behaved very well, but that I ought to consider they had profited by me in return. He then mentioned, with some degree of soreness, their having got "Sheridan's Life" away from him. I said, if a coalition between him and the Longmans was practicable in this new work I should prefer it. He seemed, however, to thing such an arrangement not feasible; and repeated, two or three times, that the "'Life of Byron' was his birth-right." Said that the materials in his own possession would go near to filling a quarto volume, without including (as I understood him) the journal given to Mrs. Leigh, of which he has a copy: difficult to say, however, how much of all this could be retained: hoped that

Hobhouse would not be too fastidious as to the extracted matter; would not prefix the "Life" to the "Works," but print it separately. Said, *en passant*, that the terms he meant to propose were, that he should discharge my debt to the Longmans, and give me half the profits of the work. (This rather ambiguous; but it is impossible he could have meant that he would give half the profits, *besides* discharging my debt to the Longmans.) I answered that all this must be a subject for future arrangement; for, as what the Longmans had said, was merely a passing remark in conversation, I could not proceed upon it without ascertaining that they seriously and deliberately meant me to take them at their word; and that I, therefore, must again consult them, and would let him know the result. Left him to call upon Mrs. Ames, according to a promise made to her at Lord Ashtown's; found Trevanion with her; sung to her, and brought the tears pretty abundantly; in which Trevanion, in compliment to her, joined. She sung to me my own "By the Feal's Wave," with a good deal of passion. Called afterwards (in consequence of another appointment) at Mrs. Sheridan's; the sky pouring torrents all day. Sung for and with Miss Sheridan, who looked quite as pretty as at night: promised I would go and see the quadrille of the "Months," at Almack's, on Wednesday, she being the *August* of the party. Dined at Lord Dacre's. Dinner at six, for the purpose of going to the French play; only Mrs. Brand and her daughter and Lord Lynedoch. Potier in the "Centenaire" admirable.

30th. Called at S.'s lodgings, and left word that he would find me at the Athenæum till twelve; did not come. Went to Power's; and while there my excellent friend, Joseph Strutt, came in to inquire my address; greatly disappointed to find that I cannot go to Derby to preside at the Leicestershire dinner, as they expected; will not have the dinner till I can go. Went together to Longman's, where he left me, having fixed next day for me to take him to see Rogers's house. Found Longman and Rees together, and told them all that had passed, since I saw them both, with Rogers, Hobhouse, and Murray. Longman repeated what he had said before; and added, that he was rejoiced the affair now seemed likely to be put on such a comfortable footing for me; that

I should now have materials from all quarters; and, by the concurrence and assistance of all Lord Byron's friends, be relieved from much of the trouble and responsibility I should have incurred in undertaking the task alone. On my questioning them as to the practicability of a coalition between them and Murray, Rees seemed rather inclined to it, but Longman was decidedly of opinion that it would not be for the comfort or interest of either party. Drew bills upon Power for 400*l.* at six and eight months, which they cashed for me. Forgot to mention that I met Lawrence one of these days, and told him that I should be able to raise the supplies without troubling him in the manner I had proposed. From Longman's went to Power's, and gave him two of my 400*l.*, to take up some drafts of mine upon him that will soon become due. Thence to Newton's, where I had appointed to meet Hume, my old and odd friend, on the following business. Chance threw us together about a week ago (as it does once in every three or four years), and a day or two since I had a letter from him inclosing a draft for 20*l.*, and saying, as he knew no one who could do an act of gallantry better than myself, he begged I would choose and purchase some trinket with that sum for my *amantissima conjux*. Answered that I felt most gratefully his kindness, and so would she; but that her habits and tastes were so unambitious, that a fourth of the sum he sent would be more than enough for a present that she would think quite splendid. Wrote accordingly to Bessy, who would have nothing at all to do with the matter, and begged me not to buy anything for her. In order, however, not to offend him, I said that as she was a great visionary about lotteries, a couple of sixteenths would give her a few weeks of dreaming, and make her happier than anything. Our meeting to-day was for the purpose of going to choose the numbers; he, and I, and Newton went out together. After buying the tickets, went to the engraver who has Lord Byron's portrait; cannot think it like; Newton of opinion that the fault lies in the smooth, marblish, effeminate colouring. Dined at Agar Ellis's: company, Lord and Lady Harewood, the Archbishop of York, and his wife and daughter; Greville, Lord and Lady Clifton, Sydney Smith, &c. Sat next Sydney Smith, right opposite Lord Harewood and the

Archbishop! an odd conjunction of signs. Some demonstrations of aristocracy from my Lord Harewood, in speaking of Marshall, the manufacturer, who is candidate for the county of York; Smith and Ellis stood up for the manufacturer. In the evening, sung a good deal; among other things my rebel song, "Oh, where's the Slave," which give rise to a good deal of fun from Sydney, about turning the Archbishop into a rebel. "But it's fast subsiding," he said; "his Grace is relapsing into loyalty; if you don't sing another song you'll lose him." The "Watchman" was what seemed particularly to please both the Archbishop and his daughter. Heard Ellis telling Smith what great delight he had "in showing Moore to Tories." Set Smith at home in a hackney coach. On my remarking how well and good-humouredly Ellis had mixed us all up together, Smith said, "That's the great use of a good conversational cook, who says to his company, 'I'll make a good pudding of you;' it's no matter what you came into the bowl, you must come out a pudding. 'Dear me,' says one of the ingredients, 'wasn't I just now an egg?' but he feels the batter sticking to him," &c. &c. Found a note from C. Sheridan, that he would be at home to-morrow, if I would call upon him. A note also from Lady Jersey, asking whether I could dine with her the day after to-morrow.

31st. Called upon C. Sheridan on my way to the Athenæum to breakfast. * * * * Called at Power's; Bishop too much engaged about Vauxhall and another opera to be able to do anything with me; a sad delay this for Power. Found on my return home a note from Barnes, inclosing the promised 400*l.*; wrote him an acknowledgment. Dined at Lord King's. Forgot to mention that the first time I saw Lord King after my arrival in town (it was at Lady Jersey's) he came up to me repeating a line out of the squib I addressed to him in the "Times,"—"When you tread on a nobleman's corn how he winces." Pretended, of course, perfect unconsciousness of the source of his quotation. Company, Sydney Smith, Sir J. and Lady Graham, Lord Elbrington, Baring Wall, &c., &c. Sung a little for Lady King in the evening. Went away with B. Wall, and having left him at the Travellers', took his carriage home with me, and having refitted a little, made use of it to go to

Almack's; was there too early; waited till the Seasons arrived; got into their wake as they passed up the room, and saw them dance their quadrille; the twelve without any gentlemen. Rather disappointed in the effect; their head-dresses (gold baskets full of fruit, flowers, &c.) too heavy; Miss Sheridan the handsomest of any; most of the others pretty, Miss Brand, the Miss Foresters, Miss Acton, Miss Beauclerc, &c. As soon as I had seen them dance, came away.

June 1st. Forgot, I believe, to mention in my Journal of last year, the following circumstances. Being much urged for a sum of money, it was my first intention to raise it by an advance, either from the "Chronicle" or the "Times" (as I have done this year from the latter), but having unluckily mentioned the idea *both* to Black and to Barnes, and both being much more ready than I expected to come into my terms, I found myself in a situation of some delicacy between them, there being a deadly jealousy (which I was not before aware of) between the two establishments. I thought it safer, therefore, for the present, to have nothing to do with either of them. Just about the time I met Charles Kemble at dinner, at Longman's, and he expressed strong anxiety that I should undertake a play of some kind at Covent Garden. It occurred to me, in consequence, that I might be able to raise the sum I wanted through this channel; and I wrote a letter to C. Kemble, having first seen him on the subject, of which the following is a copy: "Dear Kemble, in consequence of the earnest request that you were kind enough to make, that I should undertake to write a piece for Covent Garden Theatre, I beg to propose for the consideration of the proprietors, a plan by which this object may be attained, and a considerable accommodation afforded to me. In consideration of an immediate advance to me of 400*l.*, I agree to write, and put into the hands of the proprietors, within the next twelve months, either a comedy or drama, whichever may seem most desirable and practicable; the said sum of 400*l.* to be subject to any future arrangement that, on the completion of the piece, may be agreed on between me and the proprietors; and in case of the failure of the piece on representation, any loss that may be incurred thereon, to be made good by me. I also beg it to be

understood, that if during the twelve months, either from my own dissatisfaction at the manner in which I perform my task, or from a wish to relinquish writing for the stage altogether, I should be inclined to annul the present agreement, it shall be in my power so to do, after having previously repaid to the proprietors the sum of 400*l.* with the interest accruing thereupon during the time. Should this proposition meet the views of the proprietors, I hold myself bound by the present letter to perform my part of the proposed agreement. Yours, my dear Kemble, very truly, T. M."

After showing this letter (the limitations and conditions in which all came from myself) to his brother proprietor (Capt. ———), C. Kemble acquainted me that they most cheerfully acceded to my proposal, and I accordingly received the 400*l.* from the treasurer. During the year that has elapsed since then, I have thought of many subjects for a drama, all of which were rejected almost as soon as thought of. At one time I had some intention of turning my Egyptian story into a grand drama of show and scenery, but neither the descent to the *souterrains* nor the inundations would have been practicable. At last a tolerable subject for a comedy occurred to me; and on my coming up to town now, I told Charles Kemble, that if it would suit him to let me pay but half of the 400*l.* now, and give me till Christmas for the rest, it was highly possible that by that time I might have a comedy ready. This, I confess, I said more from a wish to be inconvenienced so far, than from any serious expectation that my other tasks would allow me to have a comedy ready at the time. The proprietors, too, no doubt, saw that this was my object, as on my calling at the theatre to-day to know what was their decision, the treasurer informed me that, in consequence of the property being in Chancery, and the awkwardness of allowing a sum to appear so long unaccounted for, they would prefer my paying the whole sum now; expressing, at the same time, a strong hope that I would return with a MS. in my hand to reclaim it from them. Having come provided with the 400*l.*, went with the treasurer to his office, and paid him, with 1*l.* interest. Dined at Lord Jersey's; Lord Auckland, Gen. Alava, Lord W. Somerset, Lord and Lady Grantham, Sneyd, &c. &c. In the evening I sung a little; the Duke of

Wellington came in while I was singing, sat down behind me, and seemed much pleased. Lady Grantham, who sat beside me all the while I sung, asked me for a copy of the words, "I love but Thee." Came away with Lord Auckland; called in to see his sisters, who were waiting for him to go to Lady Hertford's, and then his carriage set me down at home. Met Murray to-day in the street; had called upon him by the bye, yesterday, to tell him the result of my interview with the Longmans, which left me quite free (as far as they were concerned) to enter into terms with him. He seemed much pleased, and said he should lose no time in collecting the materials. Took Strutt this morning to Rogers's.

2nd. Busy all day in preparing for my departure to-morrow: dined with Edward Moore; just the sort of party I detest. Did not get away till near twelve, fevered, vexed, and full of spleen and champagne. Had to finish my packing before I went to bed. By the bye, got into rather a ridiculous mistake this morning. Having thought a good deal about lecturing at the Royal Institution, as a thing that might be rendered profitable (as well as an undertaking that I should gain credit by), I wished to ascertain before I left town all the particulars with respect to the number of persons the lecture-room would contain; the space that, after the members are accommodated (they being privileged to attend gratis) would be left for my own private subscribers, &c. &c. In order to procure this information I called yesterday at the Royal Institution (as I thought) to see the secretary; not being at home, I fixed to-day at twelve; saw him, and after having opened to him *confidentially* my object, had the mortification to hear him say, "My dear sir, you have mistaken the house; this is the Alfred Club House; the Royal Institution is next door." A very gentlemanlike person, however, the secretary; took me all round the house, to see the arrangements; expressed great anxiety to have me a member, &c. &c.

3rd. Set off in the coach at a quarter to seven. One of my companions, a particularly pretty girl, just from Paris, where she had been a year *en pension*; and going to join some relations of hers lately established at Calne: made the journey very agreeable. Found all pretty well on my return, but

Bessy looking rather pale. Has been, during my absence, visiting at Spyre Park and the Hugheses, which has got her over the time pretty cheerfully.

4th to 6th. It takes some time getting back to one's habits and studies after the dissipation of town.

12th. Came into Calne with Bowles to attend the election. Was to have gone to Bath with Bessy to-day, but the members having earnestly begged me to "help them through," put it off till to-morrow. Called with Bowles upon my pretty stage-coach friend, who proves to be the daughter of a new chemist come to Calne. Found her behind the counter reading "Voltaire's Tragedies;" drank some of her soda-water. Took Macdonald there afterwards; all admired her exceedingly; Bowles in raptures, and will kill himself drinking soda-water for her sake. Walked between the two members to the town hall; no pelting, contrary to what we had anticipated; a few slight hisses during a part of Abercromby's speech, but they soon died away. One of the electors at the close of the proceedings, said they expected to have heard Mr. Moore speak. "So you will," said Macdonald, "if you will come to the dinner;" the Calnite (who was one of the dissentients) shook his head negatively. Abercromby begged of me to write a letter to Lord Lansdowne to say how well every thing had gone off; walked to Hughes's, and wrote my letter from thence. The dinner at three o'clock; furiously hot. My health proposed by one of the burgesses. Made a speech in which I endeavoured to give as popular a complexion to the transaction as possible; did not blink the question of Reform, but said, "However unluckily Calne furnished an example of that anomaly and inequality in our representation which I, in common with all friends to Reform, lamented, yet I could not but look upon it as an instance of that compensating power by which Providence so often educes good out of evil, that Calne should be able to place two members in the House; who, whenever the day of parliamentary purification arises, will be among the first to plead for that great cause; and thus best evince their gratitude to the town by raising her to that rank in the representative body of England which she so well deserved to occupy;" something of this kind. Both Abercromby and Macdon-

ald seemed delighted with what I said; the latter particularly overflowed with praises of it, and made a speech afterwards near an hour long about me. The day altogether went off much better than we could have expected; an unspeakable relief, however, to get away. Drove with the members to Bowood, and walked from thence home.

13th. Off early to Bath; performed various commissions, and brought our sweet Anastasia home.

14th, 15th, &c. For the remainder of the month I must journalise *en gros*. Resumed my Egyptian story, and worked a little almost every day. Sent to Power, "When night brings the hour" (which I had written a verse of before I went to town), and new words to "'Tis not where lights are shining." Sent to the "Times" some verses on the election at Cambridge, "Bankes is weak and Goulburn too;" also on the Somersetshire election, "Alas! alas! thou Man of Corn." Received from Barnes a letter on the subject of the latter, which he said he felt some compunction at putting in (notwithstanding its pleasantry) on account of the abuse it contained of Hunt. Received several strange letters. One from a lady who calls herself Mrs. —, full of praise of my Sheridan; gives me to understand that she is in high life; the curricule and deer-cart at the door waiting for her to go to see the stag-hounds thrown off, but could not bring herself to leave my book, &c.: ten years of marriage, she says, have diminished whatever personal attractions she might once have had: the letter altogether clever and lively. An epistle also from a lady at Birmingham, who tells me, among other things, that her heart is like an Æolian lyre, and that some hands have visited it rather roughly, and

"Like the winds of the south o'er a summer-lute blowing,
Have hushed all its music and withered its frame." —
(My own lines.)

Received a letter from Lord Lansdowne, in which he says that he would have written before, but that an effort to write too soon had already caused a relapse of the gout in his hand. In talking of the elections, he says, "the Cambridge election has given birth to a better song than I could have expected from collegiate manufacture; I hope it did not escape you in the 'Times.'" Wrote an article for the "Edinburgh Review" upon a trifling French

work, "Mœurs Administratives;" had nothing better to work upon; accordingly, *ex nihilo nihil fit*.

July 3rd. Called at Bowood in the evening, the Lansdownes having arrived on Saturday. Lord L. much better; sat with them till near ten o'clock: promised to dine there on Friday (7th). Told me the King had in two instances lately shown his decided hostility to the Catholic Question; one was on addressing S. Wortley on his peerage, in which he expressed his satisfaction with him on every point but one in which he entirely differed with him; the other was in speaking to Duncombe on his promotion, when he said how highly he approved of his sentiments on this question. Dined two days at Spy Park.

4th to 6th. On the 6th walked in the evening towards Buckhill to meet Bessy, who had gone there to tea; overtaken by the Lansdownes, who took me part of the way in their carriage. Sent two songs to Power, "The Garland I send Thee," and "The World was hushed."

7th. Dined at Bowood; drove about the grounds with them after dinner; staid till near ten. Showed Lady L. my letter from the anonymous high-life lady.

8th to 10th. Sent a squib to the "Times" on "No Popery: a Despatch from Don Strepitoso Diabolo," &c. Lord L. called on the 10th: told him I should come and drink tea with them in the evening. Did so; drank tea under the tent in the pleasure grounds; went afterwards on the water; Lady Louisa and the little French girl rowed; Lady L. pushed off the boat, &c.; Lord L. and I (to our great amusement) sitting like grand Turks, and reversing Cleopatra's triumph. Very anxious that I should meet them at Lord Cawdor's (as I have been invited to do) on their return from Ireland.

12th. The Lansdownes started from Holyhead; took Miss Ricardo with them.

13th to 16th. Various letters have passed between me and Dr. Bain on the subject of our meditated visit to him; Bessy has for some time given up the idea, and I am to go alone; succeeded in persuading Bowles to go with me. Sent a squib to the "Times" about "Mr. Dodsworth," the man found under an avalanche. Received a letter from a man telling me he has written a tragedy (spelling it thus

with a j), and begging me to assist him in having it brought forward. Wrote in answer that it would give me great pleasure to be of service to him; but that I trusted he would forgive my frankness in saying that from certain proofs of a neglected education which occurred in his letter, I rather fancied literature was not exactly the line he was likely to succeed in. Had a pie-nic party to Bowood on the 14th, consisting of Mrs. Napier and children, Prowses and ditto, our own little flock, the Phippses, and two of the Hugheses. Dinner laid out on the steps of the mausoleum; the day delicious; walked before dinner through the pleasure-grounds; all returned to tea with us. A letter from Lady Cawdor, inclosing me some airs she promised, and renewing her invitation for me to meet the Lansdownes.

17th. Writing letters. Sketched out the first verses of two songs for Power.

18th. Bowles and Mrs. B. called for me in their carriage at ten o'clock; Bowles all in a fuss about our arrangements with Lord Arundell and Bain. Stopped for some time at Warminster; called with B. on Mr. W. an odd sort of ignorant old fellow with a good fortune, who has passed most of his life in travelling. When some one said to him at Naples, "Mr. W., this is rather a different country from Salisbury Downs," he answered, "Yes, but I think this a very pretty country too." Found letters at Warminster from Lord Arundell, saying that he expected us to dinner; one of the letters to me, and brought express, by a man and horse from Wardour. Got to Lord Arundell's a little after five, having separated from Mrs. B. at Hindon and taken a chaise. Company at dinner: Miss Macartney (called Countess as being a Chanoinesse), Mr. Jones, a great antiquarian, Mr. Benson, Lord Arundell's uncle and brother, and the chaplain. In the evening the organist played in the hall, and Lord and Lady A. sung several Gregorian chaunts: had singing afterwards to the pianoforte. Slept at Wardour.

19th. Some discussion before breakfast on a Latin epitaph which Lord A. is about to have set over an old priest at Salisbury. Bowles questioned the propriety of the term *sacerdos*, as applicable rather to a dignitary than a priest (he was thinking of the "*Sacerdos maximus*"), but it is the word always used. This brought on some talk about epitaphs. The following

quoted by Lord A. rather good—upon a man who was very fond of oysters, and died of a surfeit of them; something as follows.

"Tom —
Lies in these cloisters;
If at the last trump
He should not up jump,
Cry 'oysters!'"

We referred to Louth's beautiful epitaph on his daughter,

* * * * *
"Cara Maria, vale! at veniet felicis ævum,
Quando iterum tecum (slim modo dignus) ero,
Cara, redi, læta tunc dicam voce, paternos
Ejā age in amplexus, cara Maria, redi."

Made them laugh with "Here lies John Shaw," &c. which they had never heard. Story of the barrister making a speech on the wrong side, and when reminded of it by his alarmed client, going coolly on with "Such, my lord, are the arguments that, no doubt, may be used on the other side, but I shall proceed to show," &c. &c. After breakfast read some of a new Catholic work, "*Morus*," by a Mr. Kenelm Digby, full of learning, and though strongly Catholic, tolerant and amiable; the style, however, long-winded and obscure. At two o'clock set off (Lord A., Mr. Jones, Bowles, and myself) to walk to Benett's; Mr. Benson accompanied us part of the way. Jekyll at Merchant Tailors' Hall being asked by one of that body to translate the motto, "*Concordiâ res parvæ crescent*," said it meant "Nine tailors make a man." A conceited man of the name of D'Oyley having said that he wished to be called De Oyley, somebody at dinner addressed him thus, "Mr. De Oyley, will you have some Dumps?" Story of an Englishman giving a *carte* of a restaurateur (which he happened to have in his pocket) instead of his passport, and the *gend'arme* maliciously reading it and looking at him, "*Tête de veau; pied de cochon; ça suffit, Monsieur, c'est vous*." A French bookseller told Benson, speaking of two books that he had in his hand, "This is bound in mutton, sir, and this in veal." Mrs. Bennett not well enough to see us: the place looking quite beautiful. Same party at dinner as yesterday, with the exception of Mr. Benson, who went off to town. Told me he had, among the books he brought with him from Corsica, some translations from me; showed me some pretty things by the Corsican poet, Viali. Music in the evening. On my expressing a desire to

see the castle by moonlight, Lady Arundell offered to accompany me, and she and I and the priest set off together. The night was delicious, but the moon too high to shine through the windows as we wished it.

20th. After breakfast Mrs. Bowles (who is staying with her sister at Knoyle) came for us. Lady Arundell most kind in expressing her wishes that I would soon come again, and that I would bring Mrs. Moore with me: promised that I would. Set off at eleven; drove through a part of the grounds which I had not before seen; all laid out with much taste; the lodges and cottages (Lord A.'s own designs) very pretty. Went to Doinhead to a cottage of Bowles's, in which he lived while curate at Knoyle; the grounds all planted by himself. 'Twas to this place he addressed his lines, "Oh no, I would not leave thee, my secret home." Under a tree in the grounds is an urn with the pretty Latin inscription which he has given in the 2nd volume of his works, written on Mrs. Bowles's sister, to whom he was to have been married. Two of Bowles's sisters now live rent free in his cottage. This neighbourhood, between Wardour and Knoyle, very fertile in recollections of eminent men; Lord Clarendon, Fielding, Sir Godfrey Kneller, and Sir C. Wren. The chancel of Knoyle was one of the latter's first works. Went next to Shaftesbury to excuse ourselves to Charles Bowles (B.'s brother), who, we found, expected us to dinner; promised to breakfast with him in the morning. Paid visits afterwards to several of Bowles's friends — the Wrottesleys [Miss Wrottesley turning out to be an old London acquaintance of mine, a Maid of Honour], the Hillyars, &c.; and at last arrived at Mr. Still's [Mrs. B.'s brother-in-law], where we were to dine and sleep. A good quiet dinner; Mrs. B.'s sister a nice kind old lady. Sung in the evening with Miss Still, and walked home through the fields with my host and hostess Mr. and Mrs. Grove, who live in a pretty cottage belonging to Mr. Still, and gave me a hearty welcome and a comfortable bed.

21st. Called for by Bowles between eight and nine. Went on to Shaftesbury to breakfast with his brother, who lives in a house that originally belonged to their father, and which Bowles sold for 2000*l.*; Charles has now a lease of it for his life: the trees in the grounds all planted by their father. In walking into

Shaftesbury after breakfast, Bowles called to inquire after his old nurse who is still alive (Nanny Freke), and left a *shilling* for her! Went with him to the bookseller's, Rutter, a Quaker, who expressed great delight at seeing me; praised my "Life of Sheridan" abundantly. Just before we drove off from the banker's next door to him, this enthusiastic Quaker came to the carriage-door, and thrusting in a copy of his splendid work on Fonthill Abbey, said, "There, friend, accept that as a mark of my respect for the independent spirit you have shown in your Life of Sheridan." Thence proceeded to Blandford, where we stopped to rest the horses. Bought two children's books at Blandford; saw in a music-shop window the ballad of "Here's a Health to Thee, Tom Moore," and went in to buy it; but while the man was in the act of selling it to me, a lady came out from the parlour, and said that it was by mistake it was put in the window; that she had borrowed it and it must not be sold. Arrived at Bain's just in time to dress for dinner; Charles Sheridan not yet come. Some singing in the evening. The Bains disappointed to find that we do not mean to stay longer than Tuesday.

22nd. Drove to see Lulworth Castle. The wretched taste of the statues in the niches; the chapel on one side, the church on the other, and the castle (as I told Bowles) keeping the peace between them. A fine opening to the sea from one of the windows. While I was admiring it, Bain told me with tears in his eyes, that it was here his son and Baring went down and were lost; the Miss Bains and Mrs. Baring looking on at the time. He seemed quite overcome at the recollection. Company to dinner, Mr. Bond, a clergyman, and his wife and daughters; Charles Sheridan, too, had arrived in the morning. In talking of absent people, Sheridan mentioned a man who put his watch in the saucepan and held the egg in his hand to boil it by. Singing in the evening; attempted some Italian things with the Miss Bains, but they were too shy to let out their voices. Mrs. Bond an intelligent, agreeable mannered woman, and evidently much delighted with my songs.

23rd. Read after breakfast Plutarch's essay "De Iside" for my Egyptian story; a curious specimen of ancient manners to find this treatise, which is full of horrors of indecency, &c.,

dedicated to a *lady*. Drove to church three miles off; a small wretched barn, full of dingy, stinking people. Had no conception before that the proud Protestant establishment was ever so meanly lodged; Bowles said he never saw anything like it. Walked back from church. No company to dinner, but some excellent champagne, hock, and claret. Bowles quoted an epigram on Dr. —, who had a very large nose and squinted:

"The reason why Doctor — squints, I suppose,
Is because his two eyes are afraid of his nose."

Sung a little with the Miss B.'s in the evening.

24th. Breakfasted early and set off to Mr. Bond's at Tyneham (I think) on the coast, the whole party. I, with Bain in his pony-carriage, was gate-opener to the party all the way; dreadfully bad road. Went over White-way Hill and descended thence into the wild solitary valley where Mr. Bond lives. Second Miss Bond a good artist; the rooms furnished with oil paintings of her doing. Walked out after luncheon to visit the cliffs; no easy task; Bowles obliged to turn back from his head going giddy. The scene full of novelty for me, as I had never before been on a bold coast; much struck by it; mistook a sail-boat below for a bird. Got home time enough to dress for dinner; two other Miss Bonds (coming to these at Tyneham) our party. Sung for them in the evening. Bowles's carriage broke by the bad road, and will not be ready time enough in the morning for me to catch the coach (as I expected) at Blandford. Shall be obliged to go on with Bowles to Salisbury. Forgot to mention yesterday that C. Sheridan at church lent me a Romaic prayer book (the Church of England service translated into Romaic); and seeing that I took a great fancy to it, made me a present of it. Omitted to mention too that Bain, on my praising his port wine the day before yesterday, said he had more of it than he knew what to do with, and would send me a hamper to Sloperton.

25th. Started after an early breakfast, Bowles, Sheridan, and I, for Blandford; rested there some time and then set out for Salisbury; lunched at the half-way house; arrived at Salisbury between five and six. Called at Captain McDonnell's before dinner; dined at the inn, the White Hart. Sauntered about afterwards with C. Sheridan; and delighted to have

had the opportunity of forming a nearer acquaintance with Sheridan, who improves by being better known, and is a sensible, ingenious, and kind-hearted person. To-day in passing over the Downs talked much of Doddington and the literary men with whom he lived. Windham of Salisbury had a number of MSS. of Doddington's, which Bowles had looked over (some most indecent poems among them); believes that Windham destroyed them. There is also a journal of Glover's among these papers, kept in the year 1745, which Bowles says is curious.

26th. Bowles and C. Sheridan determined to set off for Southampton; and I, finding that the Devizes coach does not start to-day, thought I could not do better than go, first to the race-ground (Bowles having bequeathed his carriage and horses to me for that purpose), and then take a chaise home. The race-course very gaily attended: met Macdonald there, and Baker, who pressed me to remain over to-day and dine with him: met also Locke, and his brother-in-law, Powell, who urged me to join their party at the house of the latter, and stay for the ball on Tuesday, Locke offering to bring me home on Saturday; was obliged however to refuse. Saw one race and returned to the inn, where I lunched, and then set off in a chaise for Devizes, having bought Price's "Essay on the Picturesque" (a good companion over Salisbury Downs) to read on the way. Got to Devizes between six and seven, and walked home. Found Bessy just returned from Bath, where she had been to leave Stasia at school, and expected to meet me there.

27th to 31st. Dined on the 28th (Bessy and I) with the young Starkeys at the Park, the father being away; regaled us merrily with claret, ices, &c. &c. Sent off some verses to the "Times," "The Millennium." Wrote some things, too, for Power; two sets of words to "Early one Morning;" a sketch of a glee, "Hush, hush!" and words to an air for the Greek work, "As by the Shore at Break of Day." Find that the Houltons have been here while I was away, and made Bessy promise to fix a day for us to go there; more idling! Must give up meeting the Lansdownes at Lord Cawdor's on their return.

August 1st and 2nd. Wrote to Murray to say that I was anxious to know whether he

had made any progress in collecting the materials for "Byron's Life."

3rd. Went to Devizes, Mrs. Napier taking me in her chaise. Went to the lecture of a Mr. Wood, who has sent me a free admission for all his course; by no means bad. Called at Vincent's on my way home, and he drove me the rest of the way. Working at my Egyptian story. A letter from Barnes to say that my "Attic salt" would be more than ever welcome just now.

10th to 14th. On the 10th had a pic-nic to Bowood with the Starkeys and Collinses. Met Bowles in the wood, and walked some time with him. Mentioned the story of Dr. Bull, the celebrated contrapuntist, paying a visit to a foreign composer whom he did not find at home, but saw a piece of music arranged by him for forty parts; Bull sat down and wrote forty more to it; which, when the composer on his return saw, he exclaimed, "This must be either the Devil or Dr. Bull!" Fixed to go to the Houlton's on Tuesday next. Sent off two things to the "Times;" "Epitaph on a Tuft-hunter" and "Ode to a Hat." Sent also to Power words to an Indian air, "Like him who doomed." Wrote to Murray to know what progress he has made in collecting the Byron papers. Received a letter from Lord Lansdowne from Kenmare, informing me of his approaching departure from Ireland for Lord Cawdor's, and hoping to meet me there. Received a letter from Houlton, wishing us to put off our visit till Monday week, as he is engaged for Wednesday and Thursday, which would only leave one day for us to pass with him. Returned for answer, that we were so uncertain for next week, that we would make sure of Tuesday at all events.

15th. Set off in a chaise (Bessy and I, and Hannah and Russell) for Houlton's; stopped to visit our neighbours the Collinses on the way. Called also on Crabbe at Trowbridge, but he was not at home; arrived at Farley about three. Walked in the garden and grounds before dinner. Houlton has had a letter from Sir J. Astley, saying he will come to Farley to-morrow; this keeps the Houltons at home; so we agreed to stay over to-morrow. Music in the evening; Isabella's guitar, as usual, delightful; duets on the pianoforte and harp by her and Eliza.

16th. Set off to call on the Shirleys, to whom

the H.'s had been engaged to-day. Found there the Lockes, who are on a visit for a few days; a pretty place; walked about, lunched, &c. Pressed by the Shirleys to come to them to-morrow; but couldn't; half promised we would come next week. Sir J. Astley not arrived at Farley. Evening very agreeable. John Houlton, among other things, sung *Un tenero amore* from the "Semiramide," with Eliza, whose voice in this is full of melancholy and expression.

17th. Went to see the castle and chapel, and sent for a chaise to take us home. Had music before we went. Sir J. Astley arrived. Started between two and three, and got home about five. Met Benett and Phipps on their way to the Trowbridge dinner.

18th. Benett and Mrs. Phipps called: mentioned that we had some thoughts of going to town, and he offered us the use of his house.

19th to 22nd. Sent to the "Times" the "Petition of the Orangemen of Ireland." They have not yet inserted the "Ode to a Hat," through fear, I suppose, of the parsons. Told Barnes, from the first, that this sensitiveness about the Church would be a restraint upon me in my operations for them. Received a letter from Mr. Upcott, who has purchased the papers of Garrick, expressing his wish that I should undertake the editorship of them, and bidding me name my own terms; wrote to decline it. Received a letter from a Mr. Smith sending me a work (translations from the Greek) by Leopold Joss, together with some original Greek music. In reference to the latter he says, "As lyric monarch you have a right to all such jetsam and flotsam; and they must be worthless indeed if you cannot ennoble them in your "National Melodies." Received a very civil answer from Murray, to say that he had been attending to the arrangement of the Byron papers, and that there was already as much transcribed as filled four cyphering books! A good deal embarrassed by the prospect of being obliged to go up to town to take leave of Lucy Drew, whom we shall not see again for some years; Bessy having set her heart upon going up too, which increases the expense. Wrote to Power and Murray to see if I could not have from one or the other some pretext of business for my visit; but Power cannot get Bishop to fix a time for business, and Murray is not yet sufficiently ready with the papers to admit of our looking

them over together, as I proposed. The "Ode to a Hat" has appeared, but abridged of a stanza.

23rd to 30th. Employed chiefly at my Egyptian tale. Had driven over with our neighbour Collins to Bowood on the 21st, and brought away "Priestley's History of the Church." The Lansdownes arrived next day; walked over there a day or two after; met Lord L. on my return. Felt myself rather ill for some days. Lord L. called and walked in the garden with me for some time; said that the day he arrived at Lord Cawdor's, they saw the steam packet approaching and thought it probable I was on board. It had the longest tail of smoke behind he had ever seen; and he said to Lord Cawdor, "Moore has evidently heard your dinner bell, and bid them put on more coals." Wrote words to one of Mr. Joss's Greek airs, "They are gone;" the prettiest thing I have done for some time. Lord L. asked Bessy and me to come over and dine on Saturday next (Sept. 2). Fixed to go to town on the 6th. The following is the omitted stanza of the "Ode to a Hat:"

"Gods! when I gaze upon that brim,
So redolent of Church all over;
What swarms of tithes in vision dim,—
Some, pig-tailed,—some, like cherubim,
With ducklings' wings—around it hover!
Tenths of all dead and living things,
That nature into being brings,
From calves and corn to chitterlings!"

Sent up a squib, better than usual, to the "Times:" "A Vision; by the Author of Christabel."

31st. Walked over to Bowood; saw Lady L. and sat with her some time. She said, "What an admirable thing in yesterday's 'Times!'" "What, Coleridge's?" I asked. "Coleridge's indeed!" she answered, with a smile that showed plainly *whose* she thought it. I however denied as well as I could, being but a bad *denier*. Offered to send the carriage for us on Saturday; gave me a long account of their dinner at Lord Wellesley's; Lady W. becomes her station admirably. Lord L. had already told me how well she went through her representation. He had a good deal of talk with her, and she spoke of her pride in being an American; recollected being taken when a child, to see the place where her grandfather burned the tobacco rather than let it fall into the hands of the English; and remembers and

values this more than she would the proudest heraldry.

Sept. 1st and 2nd. Received a note from Barnes full of praise of the "Vision." Col. Napier returned, walked a little with him; spoke also of the "Vision," as wonderfully clever; asked me if it was mine; said *not*; said it was likely to be by Denman, who, to my surprise, he mentioned as a person guilty of many good *jeux d'esprit*. Company at Lord L.'s; the Ricardos, Bowleses, young Awdrey, &c. &c. A delightful day; sang a good deal in the evening.

3rd. Wrote part of a squib, "News for Country Cousins." Wrote also an air to words which I had already sent to Power, "The Light Bark that goes."

4th. Bessy set off for Buckhill, having borrowed the Gabys' donkey-cart; followed her in an hour or two afterwards; an early dinner at Hughes's. Set off (Bess and I) in the Shamrock coach at twenty minutes past nine; a Bristol merchant our companion; a very interesting man, who gave us a whole account of his life and adventures.

5th. Arrived in Albemarle Street between nine and ten, and found breakfast and a good fire ready for us. Could hardly hold up my head for want of sleep; Bessy much fresher than I; lay down on the bed for an hour or two, while Bessy drove out with Lucy; joined them afterwards, Lucy looking in high bloom. Dined at Power's. Bessy went to her mother's in the evening, while I walked to my tailor's, &c. Met Grattan, who consulted me on the subject of an Irish novel he is about to write. Called for Bessy at her mother's; tea at Power's; and home early, Lucy having sent her job carriage for us.

6th. Driving about all the morning. Called at Miss White's, who wanted us all to dine to-day, or fix some other time; could not. Spoke of Frere, whom, I told her, we were to meet to-day: she said we should find him very sleepy: "that it did very well to have to say, 'Mr. Frere dined with me yesterday;' but that was all one had for it." Told me that Murray "was very unsuccessful of late;" besides the failure of his "Representative" [newspaper], the "Quarterly" did not look very promising; and he was about to give up the fine house he had taken in Whitehall and return to live in Albemarle Street; said that

there was to be a canto by Lord Holland in W. Rose's next volume of "Ariosto," which she thought imprudent of Rose, as Lord H.'s was said to be so superior to his. Pressed us very much to name a day or evening to come to her. Called at the Fieldings', Lady Elizabeth having left her card yesterday; saw them all; Fielding ill with a sort of dumb gout; fixed to call and take us to dinner at Mrs. Montgomerie's. Company at Mrs. M.'s: Fielding and Talbot, Lucy and ourselves, the two Freres, M. Rosetti, and Grattan. Frere rather agreeable. When I mentioned the "aerial potato," of which Dr. Darwin gives an account in his "Phytologia," he said it was like O'Connell's eloquence. Talked a good deal about Lord Erskine; said how odious he thought those verses of his. "The Muses and Graces will just make a jury," when he first heard them; introducing law terms into love-verses. This, however, rather hypercritical. In the evening, M. Rosetti, who has just published a commentary on Dante (proving it, I think, to be satire), gave us recitations from Tasso, and some Neapolitan songs. One of the latter about a Jew, Barokaba, very good. Repeated also some verses of his own, in which the four following lines struck me as pretty—

"E finita la pace,
La guerra è vivace;
L'affanno rimane,
La gioja s' en va."

Fielding brought us home at night. Called at Longman's this morning; gave me an account of the losses they have sustained from Constable. Sir. W. Scott, they say, is in good spirits; says he "has yet twelve good years in him," and has no doubt of working through all his difficulties. Called, too, at Barnes's, but did not see him.

7th. Nothing but rain. Shopping about with Bessy and Lucy; Frederick Montgomerie with us part of the time. Quoted my parody on Horace, "*Rosa quo locorum*," and said there was more wit condensed in that book of mine than is to be found anywhere else in the same space. Talked of modern Greek, whether they have the true pronunciation of the ancients; the *equivoque* in the old oracle on *Amos*; their substitution of *v* for *b*, make the cry of a sheep, *va va*; the words they borrow from other languages, 'Ο *Κανίναρος του Υπιδαντων*. Called at Murray's, and found he

was gone off to Chichester. Sent Barnes the "News for Country Cousins." Dined with Lucy at Barbour's; went in the evening to Sadler's Wells, B. having sent to take a private box; saw the pony races first, with which Bessy was much interested. Returned to tea at the Charter House, and then home. The Longmans have sent me Priestley's "Early Opinions," &c. (which I wish to read for my Egyptian work), with a note to say that I must return it on Saturday. Hard work to get through four octavos in that time.

8th. Lucy called upon us at ten to drive out to Twickenham for the purpose of seeing a villa that belongs to Lady Virginia; lunched at Richmond on our way back, and went to see Lord Lansdowne's house there. Had two volumes of "Priestley" with me, and contrived to skim the cream of them on the way.

9th. The first fine day we have had. Walked about a good deal, after having devoted two or three hours to Priestley, from whom I made a sheet of extracts. Luttrell called. Forgot to mention that I saw him the day before yesterday, when he read me a humorous poem which he has written upon Rome, and which I advised him to publish. Went with Lucy and Bessy to the wild beasts and the British Gallery; found that I could not relish sufficiently Sir J. Reynolds's "Death of Dido;" the face of Dido beautiful, but her arms out of drawing, and the other figures disagreeable. The portrait of "Count La Lippe" very fine. Dined at the Charter House; sung in the evening; and home pretty early to pack for the morning. Saw Lord Strangford this morning; long conversation with him.

10th. Set off in the Emerald at half-past seven, and got home about the same hour in the evening. Found Bessy quite well. Forgot to mention, that while in town I received a letter from Lord Lansdowne, saying he meant to go to Gloucester meeting, and had sent to order beds for him and me.

11th. Walked over to Bowood, and fixed with Lord L. to be with him at eleven on Wednesday morning (13th). Met Napier on my way back, and he walked with me. On my mentioning the courtesy of manner for which the Indian savages are remarkable, said that *that* seemed to bear out the theory of Dr. Davis (I think) in his "Celtic Researches;" namely, that the people we call barbarous and

savage are the worn-out remains of civilised nations. This supposition, when we consider the countless empires that have existed in the world, not altogether improbable; but it is going too far to suppose that the polished manners of such effete nations would survive the rest of their civilisation. Dined with the Napiers, who have Lady Bunbury (Mrs. N.'s sister) with them.

12th. Wrote a squib for the "Times," "Incantation of the Bubble Spirit."

13th. Set off from Bowood with Lord L. at half-past eleven; stopped at Malmesbury to rest the horses, and saw the cathedral. Took, to read on the way, the Bishop of Salisbury's pamphlet on Milton's lately discovered Latin work. This brought on a conversation between us on the subject of the Trinity, and the disputes respecting it. Middleton's "Free Enquiry." No monument to him at Cambridge; merely a plain stone with his name inscribed on it. Watson's too, an eye-sore to the Reverends; but on *temporal* grounds. Shabby of Pitt not to promote him. At Rodbury took post-horses and arrived at Gloucester between five and six. Good lodgings taken for us opposite the King's Head; Bowles there already; his bed-room next to mine. Lord L. and I dined and went to the evening concert; the Ricardos there. Lord L. introduced me to Lord and Lady Ducie. "The Last Rose of Summer," by Caradori, very ineffectively sung, and went off flatly. Had to stand a good deal of staring; some talk with Lord Worcester, &c. A ball after the concert; stayed till between twelve and one.

14th. Breakfasted early. Sent off to Barnes my "Incantation." To the cathedral between ten and eleven. Lord Ducie wished us to go to the *Lay* gallery, but we remained faithful to the Spiritual and Bowles: sat with the Ricardos. Some of the selections very good: "In sweetest Harmony," the "Benedictus," the "Heavens are telling." Dined at the ordinary; some doubts whether I should get a place from the neglect of Bowles in not giving in my name. Ricardo and I got together towards the bottom of the table; ninety persons; twice as many as ever dined before. At the top of the table were Lords Ducie, Sherborne, Worcester, Calthorpe, the Duke of Beaufort, &c. &c. Contrary to my expectation my health was given (proposed by Lord Dulcie's son,

Moreton); and, still more extraordinary in the presence of so many high Tories, was the only toast drunk with three times three. Some of the honest country gentlemen who sat near me, but did not know me, as soon as their glasses were filled, directed their eyes towards the upper part of the table, and roared out aloud, "Mr. Moore, your health," till Ricardo said, impatiently, "There he is, this is Mr. Moore here amongst us." Went in the evening to the concert; very crowded. Home between twelve and one. Lord L. wanted to pay for all my tickets, saying, that I was "his guest;" but I insisted on his allowing me to discharge at least this part of my expenses. "Eveline's Bower" this evening, by Miss Stephens, very flat.

15th. After breakfast joined Lord L. at Lord Ducie's. The Ducies wish me to pay them a visit at their country house after the Music Meeting, but cannot. Meant to be off early, but was induced to go with Lords Ducie and Sherborne to see the prison and pin manufactory. Lord L. mentioned the circumstance of Vansittart going to see the Millbank Penitentiary, on a day, as it happened, when the prisoners, who had been long discontented with their bread, meant to take vengeance on the governor by shying their loaves at him. Poor Van, having been recommended to sit down in the governor's chair, as the best place to see the prison from, was no sooner seated than a shower of these loaves from all quarters flew about his ears, and almost annihilated him. At half-past one o'clock left Gloucester; found Lord L.'s four horses waiting for us at Rodbury. * * * * Had some mutton cutlets and a bottle of sherry at Malmesbury, while the horses rested; and reached Derry Hill between seven and eight, when I got out (it being a delicious moonlight night), and walked home. Found Newton, who arrived the day before yesterday, and had been to dine to-day, with Bessy, at Napier's.

18th. Desperate rain; Newton evidently glad of the excuse to put off his departure from us till to-morrow. Made some pretty sketches in Bessy's album. A note from Lady Lansdowne to ask me for three or four days this week, but answered that I could come only on Friday. Newton's opinion of Raphael, that though his single figures are perfection there is too often a want of poetry and even sense in

his general design ; the Transfiguration an instance. The two boys in the Dresden Madonna leaning as on a table ; the old saint in the same picture, so discordant with the other figures ; the Magdalen here, though perhaps a little coquettish, exquisite.

19th. Walked with Newton on his way to Bowood.

20th. Went (Bessy and I and Buss) to Locke's to dine and sleep ; a large party ; Napier, the Grossetts, the Warrenders, Amyot, &c. &c. Napier mystifying with his paradoxes at dinner. Sung a good deal in the evening ; Mrs. Grossett also sung.

21st. * * * * * Walked to Devizes with Bessy and Selina Locke, for the purpose (on my part) of seeing Luttrell ; met him on my way to Scott's. Walked with us a good deal ; quoted *à propos* of Selina Locke's eyes, the saying of a Spanish poet to a girl, "Lend me your eyes for to-night ; I want to kill a man." Said he detected me in the "Times" yesterday (alluding to the "Incantation") ; but I disavowed. Company at Locke's : the Vincents and John Starkey ; in the evening, Mrs. Vincent played and sung.

22nd. Walked home with Bessy, and prepared for my visit to Bowood ; dreadful idling ; near three weeks now *sine lineâ* ; ruinous ! Got to Bowood about six : company, the Aucklands and Newton (the only inmates), Bowleses, Grossetts, and Heneages. Sung in the evening, "They are gone," very much liked. Slept there.

23rd. In speaking at breakfast of the custom of the Lords wearing their hats in conferences with the Commons, and the latter taking them off, Lord L. said that the point of etiquette was once contested between them, and public business a good deal obstructed by their dissension ; but Speaker Onslow had the merit of settling the matter thus—as the Lords sit with their backs to the Throne (?) they are not, he said, supposed to see it, and therefore not expected to uncover ; whereas the Commons with that object before their eyes could not in decency keep their hats on their heads. This reconciled the pride of the latter, and got over the difficulty ! * On my describing the way I was situated at the cathedral at Gloucester, Lord A. said that it was plain I was a man more

sat upon than sitting : was prepared to be pressed to stay to-day, and made up my mind accordingly. Walked home, and employed myself in transcribing some things from Magee's "Atonement." This is surely an overrated work ; its plan desultory ; its tone arrogant ; and its reasoning weak. No one at dinner but the Aucklands, Newton, and myself. Sung in the evening ; Lady L. a good deal affected, both by "They are all gone" and the "Evening Gun." Walked home between twelve and one.

25th to 27th. Sent some verses to the "Times," "A Dream of Turtle," by Sir W. Curtis." Several allusions to the last one (the "Incantation") have appeared since its insertion. Wrote to Barnes to remind him of his promise to come to us. Received a letter from the Longmans (which, though I have been for some time rather prepared for its contents) disturbed me not a little. After inquiring whether I had come to any conclusion with Murray upon the terms which he himself proposed (namely the paying off my debt to them in the first instance), they add that, after their late losses they cannot but say that the payment of this sum would be at this time very welcome to them.

28th. Wrote to the Longmans, and stated the extent of my intercourse with Murray since I had last seen them, amounting to no more than the two letters I received from him in answer to my inquiries as to his progress in collecting the papers ; added that if I had had any idea of their being anxious for the immediate payment of the money, I would have pressed that point in the first instance ; that I would now lose no time in doing so, and would write to Rogers (who had consented to be my negotiator with Murray on the subject) immediately. Wrote to Rogers, and directed it to town, not knowing where he is. Have received from Power a MS. copy of the poetical part of our Greek work for the purpose of finishing it off as soon as possible. Must suspend my story to do this : altogether feel harassed and uncomfortable.

29th. Plaguing letters, &c. from beggars and scribblers. A Mr.— sends me no less than a comedy, a set of tales, and a poem (all in MS.) to look over ! An anonymous gentleman wishes a recommendation to the Literary Fund ; his only qualification a bad novel from

* There is some obscurity here. A conference never takes place in the House of Lords ; but there may have been a throne in the Painted Chamber.

the Minerva press. A Major and Mrs. F. write to complain that the Reviews have accused their friend Lieut. S. of borrowing his "Bay Leaves" from me, and seem to expect that I will vindicate the lieutenant from the charge. One of my unknown Kerry cousins sends me a petition, the first clause of which is, "that your petitioner has the honor of being your first cousin;" he then tells me that I gave him 10*l.* four years since, in Dublin (which is a lie); and concludes by entreating me to "resume my generous habits." Wrote to Mr.— to say, that I hope he will excuse my frankness, but that I have looked over his MSS. and do not think that literature is his line.

30th. Received a letter from the Longmans expressing their regret at having given me so much uneasiness, which was by no means their intention; and inclosing me one of Murray's announcements of his new publications, in which he mentions as preparing for the press, "Memoirs of the Life of Lord Byron" (*without* any author's name). * * * * Had a party to dinner, consisting of Col. Napier and Collins (the two strangers for whom it was given), Dr. Starkey and his son, the two Hugheses, and Prowse; the Miss Starkeys and Mrs. Collins in the evening. Did my best to amuse them, though but little in a mood for mirth. Staid supper.

October 1st. Wrote to Murray; and without mentioning the suspicions his announcement had excited in me, merely asked him to explain the meaning of his change of plan from what we had agreed on together; and to say at the same time, whether any other material change had taken place in the intentions he expressed to me on the subject of Lord B.'s life, in May last. Wrote also to Rogers, at Lord Lonsdale's, stating what had occurred, and inquiring how soon he could be in town to act as my negotiator with Murray, and to bring the whole matter to some definitive point. Meant to have walked over to Bowood with these letters, but was prevented by the rain; inclosed them to Lord L. with the copy of Murray's announcements, and expressed the anxiety I felt to consult him on the subject. A kind answer.

2nd. Lord L. called and I was out; left word he would come again; and did so. Brought Crowe (the author of "To-day in Ireland")

with him; a shy man. In talking of Lord II., I mentioned the uneasiness he was in one day at my making him laugh, on account of a new dandyish wig he had on for the first time, and which laughing disturbed the set up. Lord L. said that the late Duke of Marlborough having been forbid all sorts of excitement (or being himself afraid of it), the invitations of the duchess were always accompanied with a promise that the person invited should not make the duke laugh; if any such effect was likely to be produced, the guest must stay away. The duke at one time did not speak for three years; and the first thing that made him break this long silence, was hearing that Mad. de Stael was coming to Blenheim, when he exclaimed, "Take me away!" Dined at Starkey's; company, the Collins, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Vilet; sung a good deal in the evening. Bessy slept there, and the Collins brought me home.

4th. Sent off a squib to the "Times," "Corn and Cotton, a Dialogue;" a good subject, but spoiled in the execution. No answer from Murray.

6th. Went to dine at Bowood; Bessy walked in the morning to dine and sleep at Buckhill. Company at Bowood, only Luttrell, who arrived the day before yesterday, and Mr. Crowe. Lord L. told of some one who mentioned at a large dinner, that he had seen that day, in the street, a most extraordinary sight; namely, a very handsome carriage driving about with four monkeys in it. "*Pardon, monsieur,*" said a little Prussian nobleman who was among the company, "*c'étoit moi et mes trois singes.*" Mentioned some one having said of Lord Melville, that he was the only orator who ever forced the House to learn his language instead of his learning theirs. Turned over the new number of the "Quarterly" in which they call me "a sprightly partisan;" was near saying to Lord Lansdowne that *he* would not join them in calling me a *partisan*; but such are the consequences of being honest and impartial. Slept there; promised to stay over to-morrow.

7th. Lady L., who in calling on Mrs. Hughes yesterday had seen Bessy, begged me to prevail on her to come and dine at Bowood to-day, and sleep. After breakfast Luttrell and I walked over to Buckhill. * * * * Bessy would not dine at Bowood because this is Tom's day of coming home, and she does not

like to lose his company: left Buckhill with us to walk to Spye Park and home. In Sandy Lane met by the Starkeys, who took Bessy home in their carriage; and Luttrell and I walked to Spye Park. Nothing could look more beautiful; a sombre day suits it. Found Jane at home, who gave us luncheon. In talking of my restlessness, Luttrell said (to Jane's amusement) that I ought to be treated as Zephyr is in a ballet called "Zephyre puni et fixé." Luttrell walked to the cottage with me, where I played him over some music; and then both walked back again to Bowood. Charles Fox and his wife in addition to our party at dinner. In talking after dinner of sailing, &c., Fox was describing the sea as he had once seen it, all in flames round the ship in passing through the Gut of Gibraltar; "an inflammation in the bowels," said Luttrell. Sung in the evening; but my audience very dull.

8th. Lady L. made me promise to stay till after luncheon. Luttrell showed me a pretty translation of his from the German, which I made him promise me to send to the "Times." Read some of "Landseer's Sabæan Researches." After luncheon Luttrell walked part of the way home with me. J——'s saying to him that in going circuit "there was always a floating balance of shirts among us, and I contrived to leave the party one morning when this balance happened to be particularly in my favour." Told him of some one saying Miss ——'s father and mother were "afraid to let her off the premises;" "for fear, I suppose (said Luttrell), that she should come to the *"conclusion."*" Worked at my Greek subject in the evening.

9th. Wet day. Greek work.

10th. Just as I was settling to business Luttrell arrived; one of the pleasantest interrupters I could have had, but still an interrupter. Had consented too, a little before, to dine at the Starkeys', in the hope of having a long day of work till six o'clock. Talked of the dull audience I had the other night at Bowood: told him I was fool enough to fancy at first that Mrs. F. was crying, but that I found she was only putting up her hands to settle her spectacles. "Ay (he said), you thought it was *nocte pluit totâ*, instead of which it was *redeunt spectacula*." Repeated me some lines of his about lord F. B.; one stanza was something as follows:

"'Tis said you're famous at a breach,
Covering yourself with glory;
But when you come to make a speech,
• That's quite another story."

Gave me a copy of his translation from Gellert (?) to send to the "Times." Walked with him the greater part of the way to Bowood; was back but just time enough to dress for the Starkeys', who sent their carriage for us. Company, only Mrs. Collins and Col. Keate: sung in the evening; a different audience in every respect from that on Saturday. Wrote to the Longmans to-day " * * * that I had been since I wrote last calculating my own resources, and that I found I should at least be able to settle my account with them at Christmas, so as to leave but a balance of a few hundreds against me, which I could easily work through before Midsummer. That my assets towards them were, 1st, the money of Anastasia's in their hands, and the interest on it, which Bryan, when he told me of his settlement of 1000*l.* on her, suggested that I should devote towards freeing me from my embarrassments, and which I had now made up my mind to do; 2nd, the 300*l.* which Lord John Russell insisted on leaving in their hands (being the profits of his "Life of Lord William Russell") towards the payment of my last Bermuda claim, but which has never been called for; 3rd, the sale of my three copyrights ("Angels," "Captain Rock," and "Holy Alliance"); and 4th, the produce and copyright of the Egyptian story I am about (deducting from thence a portion which I shall have to call upon them for between this and Christmas). That these different items amounted altogether to a sum which would leave no greater balance against me than I could with ease provide for by Midsummer.

11th. Employed at the Greek work. Began in the evening a squib for the "Times." The "Donkey and his Panniers."

12th. Finished my squib and sent it off together with Luttrell's verses. Employed in the evening on the Greek work.

13th. Sent off the Greek work to Power. Dined with the Napiers.

14th. A most kind letter from the Longmans, saying, with many thanks for the efforts which I proposed to make towards a settlement with them, they were not so pressed for money as to wish to change our relative posi-

tions with each other; that they knew how well I could, in more than one quarter, raise supplies sufficient to meet all demands upon me; but that they thought the arrangement I had with them would be most satisfactory to my feelings, as being rather in the shape of *business* than of *obligation*. (I give more the substance than the words of their letter.)

* * * Walked with Napier; talked of King William being a coward: quoted Marshal Berwick's anecdote of the difficulty of finding William during the action, when he, the Marshal, was taken prisoner and they wanted to conduct him to William; and of their at last finding him in a retired valley in such a state (Berwick says) as no general ought to be found in. . . .

16th. Set off for Bowood to see O'Driscoll, who has been there some days: met him coming to me and turned about with him. Spoke of the excited state of the public mind in Ireland: thinks that 300,000 men might be raised there at a very short notice, and that there is not a priest but would turn recruiting officer. While he was with me Bowles came, full of the verses in the "St. James's Chronicle;" nothing was ever so clever or so witty. Played off the same ignorance of the poem, and indignation at the use of my name as I did to the Lockes, and with the same success. "Then it must have been written by Luttrell," said Bowles; "no one but you or he could have done it." Worked in the evening at my Egyptian story.

17th. A letter from Barnes, and some remarks in one of the leading articles of "The Times," upon the unjustifiable step of the "St. James's Chronicle." Worked at my Egyptian story.

18th. Working. Elwyn called while I was out; is coming to Bowood on Monday, and will bring Anastasia home for Tom's birthday.

19th. A letter from Rogers saying that he is in town, and that if I mean to go up before he goes to Bowood, I must go immediately. Another from Power to say that Rees will be leaving town in a day or two, and that he wishes me very much to see Sir W. Scott, who is now in London on his way to Paris. Resolved to start to-morrow morning; wrote to tell Lord L., who called while I was out. A kind note from him in the evening to express his regret at my going away just now, as a

number of friends were coming in the course of the next ten days, and hoping that I should be able to return with Rogers. Met Charles Fox at Napier's this morning; he and O'Driscoll are also going to town in the morning.

20th. A chaise to Calne early, in order to be time enough for the first coach; was lucky enough to get a seat in the York House with Fox and O'Driscoll. Fox happening to have the "Memoirs of Berwick" with him, I referred to the passage about K. William, but found it not quite so strong as Napier had represented it; it *was*, however, a *valley très éloignée de l'action*, and from which William could neither see friends nor foes. Our whole day rather amusing; Fox's mimicry very good; and I dosed them plentifully all the way with Irish stories, to the no small amusement of a lady fresh from Antigua, who formed the fourth of our party. O'Driscoll gentle and silent; "gentle, but not dull." Fox mentioned an epigram occasioned by a speech of the Duc de Fitzjames, spoken at the special instance of Chateaubriand, to support their party when it was tottering:

"Fitzjames a parlé; c'est chose très certaine,
Voilà Chateaubriand qui fait comme La Fontaine."*

This is as Fox gave it; the metre is evidently all astray. Mentioned a short memoir of his "Own Times," by the old Lord Holland (?), which is in the present Lord Holland's possession; the delight expressed in it at the progress of the King's passion for Lady Sarah Napier. Fox's imitation of the singing of different countries, of the cry of his guide in Asia Minor, &c. &c.; all very good. On our arrival Fox wanted me to go and take a bed at his aunt's house, but Rogers having also invited me, could, of course, accept no other invitation. Went to my lodgings in Duke Street, which I found ready for me. Dined at the Athenæum, and went early to bed.

21st. Breakfasted with Rogers. Told me that after having called once or twice upon Murray without seeing him, he met him a day or two since at Lockhart's; when Murray himself opened upon the subject, and explained the meaning of his announcement by saying that the papers of Lord Byron in his hands

*The version I heard is—

"Fitzjames a parlé; la chose est certaine,
Chateaubriand a fait ce qu'a fait La Fontaine."—J. E.

had proved so abundant and curious, that some friends had advised him to publish them first separately; and then (he added) Mr. Moore is welcome to make all the use of them afterwards that he pleases. R. has been with Southey this summer. S.'s bigoted opinions; Charles L., he says, had but one fault, that of betraying his friend! his admiration of Laud, and his anger against Lord Holland for having called him "that bad man," in one of his speeches. "Only for my knowing Lord Holland (said Southey) I would have twigg'd him for that;" as if he considered himself the grand protector of all tyrants and bigots, living and dead. A witticism of Foote's: "Why are you for ever humming that air?" "Because it haunts me." "No wonder, for you are for ever murdering it." Told him of the state of my affairs with the Longmans, and of the offer I had made to settle with them; on which he very kindly said, "Why not settle with them at once? Lord Lansdowne would, I am sure, lend you a thousand guineas, and I'll lend you another thousand." When I was parting with him, having owned that I sometimes felt fits of despondency at the prospect before me, he said, "No, no, you have a noble spirit of your own, and you must keep it up, you dog." Altogether my conversation with him was very cheering to me. Called upon Luttrell, who walked with me to Power's and to Longman's. Told the Longmans of Murray's explanation of his announcement to Rogers. They read us some correspondence that had passed between them and him on the subject of "Mrs. Rundell's Cookery," from which we learned the curious fact that, after this book had for many years produced Murray seven or eight hundred a-year, £2000 was given by him for the copyright of it. "Gad! one wonders (said Luttrell) that there should be *any* bad dinners going." Had met Sir T. Lawrence on our way to Longman's, who asked us to call at his house in a couple of hours. Called at Pickering's in Chancery Lane, who showed us the original agreement between Milton and Symonds for the payment of five pounds for "Paradise Lost." The contrast of this sum with the £2000 given for Mrs. Rundell's "Cookery," comprises a history in itself. Pickering, too, gave forty-five guineas for this agreement, three times as much as the whole sum given for the poem. It was part payment,

I think (?). Went to Lawrence's: always wish I could like the man as much as I admire his works; but (as Luttrell says) "he is oily, and the oil bad into the bargain." On my mentioning that I was to dine with Rogers next day, he expressed a strong wish to be of the party, and at length bid me say to R. that he would come. Left my name at Lockhart's for Sir Walter Scott, who dined with the King at Windsor yesterday, and had not yet returned. Went to dine with Rogers at five; found I had got into a scrape by bringing Lawrence upon him to-morrow. Mentioned the Duke of Portland having once sat for an hour and twenty minutes without speaking when Lord J. Townshend went to him on the subject of the £10,000 which he had subscribed for the Westminster election. "As every body else has come forward with their money, I venture to," &c. &c.; not a word from the Duke: "We do not wish for the whole sum at once, but if your grace," &c. &c.; still not a word; and, at the end of the hour and twenty minutes, he was bowed out silently by the Duke without getting any thing by his visit. R. and I went to Drury Lane, to Lady Spencer's box. The "Devil's Bridge" and the "White Lady." The scene of the White Lady rising out of the fountain, under a sort of bower of water-drops in the moonlight, most beautiful.

22nd. Breakfasted with R.; Luttrell and his son there. Mentioned some one who, on seeing an unruly English mob, said, "Now, what do these fellows want? it can't be liberty, for they seem to have plenty of that; I rather think it must be property, of which some of them appear to be in considerable want." Dreadful rain; took a hackney coach and drove to Brompton to see L.; afterwards called upon Barnes; spoke to him of Luttrell's poem upon Rome; whether it would be too long to insert in the "Times," as the Longmans think it too short to print separately. Said he should be very glad to insert it, and asked whether I would expect any remuneration for it; said, I believed not. Found a kind note on my return home from Sir Walter Scott, begging me, if possible, to come and partake of his daughter's (Mrs. Lockhart's) family dinner to-day, and, at all events, to come to breakfast to-morrow morning; had just written to him to propose myself for the latter. Dined at Rogers's:

company, Newton, Luttrell and his son, and Sir Thomas Lawrence. L. mentioned some rich city heiress who, whenever any man made proposals of marriage to her, immediately sent for a Bow Street officer. Went to Scott's in the evening. Sir T. Lawrence having begged me to mention that *he* was within call, did so, and a note was immediately written to him, by Lockhart, to ask him. Scott mentioned the contrast in the behaviour of two criminals, whom he had himself seen: the one a woman, who had poisoned her husband in some drink, which she gave him while he was ill; the man not having the least suspicion, but leaning his head on her lap, while she still mixed more poison in the drink, as he became thirsty and asked for it. The other a man, who had made a bargain to sell a *subject* (a young child) to a surgeon; his bringing it at night in a bag; the surgeon's surprise at hearing it cry out; the man then saying, "Oh, you wanted it dead, did you?" and stepping behind a tree and killing it. The woman (who was brought up to judgment with a child at her breast) stood with the utmost calmness to hear her sentence; while the man, on the contrary, yelled out, and showed the most disgusting cowardice. Scott added, that this suggested to him the scene in "Marmion." Sat down to a hot supper, of which Scott partook, and drank bottled porter; both myself and Sir T. Lawrence following his example; then came the hot water and whiskey, in which we all joined also. This seems to be Scott's habitual practice. He spoke a good deal about Coleridge and Hogg, and recited, or rather tried to recite, some verses of the latter; but his memory appeared to me more wandering and imperfect than formerly.

23rd. Breakfasted at Scott's; Rogers there, and another person, whose name I did not make out. Talking of practical jokes, Rogers's story of somebody who, when tipsy, was first rolled in currant jelly, and then covered with feathers: his exclaiming, when he looked at himself in a glass, "A bird, by Jove!" Scott's story of the man whom they persuaded that the place he was walking in was very full of adders; his fancying he felt an adder in his foot, and striking his foot violently with his stick, in order to kill it; hearing a hiss from out the boot, and then (as Scott said) "pelting away" at it again with his stick. "Ah, now

he is silent, I think I have done for him;" then taking off his boot, and finding that it was his watch which had slipped down there, and which he had been thus hammering away at, the hiss having been the sound of the spring breaking. Scott's acting of this story admirable. In talking of their approaching trip to Paris I said, "If I should like to go with you;" upon which both he and Miss Scott caught eagerly at my words, and with an earnestness that was evidently *real*, pressed me to accompany them. Nothing could be more tempting, and I almost made up my mind to do it. Their departure fixed for Thursday; promised to let them know for a certainty on Wednesday. Scott said, as I was coming away, "Now, my dear Moore, do think seriously of this; you would be of the greatest service to me, and we have a place for you in the carriage; only you must take care and not rumple Anne's frills." Set off, with Rogers, for Murray's. Talked, as we went, of my scheme of going with Scott. Threw a little *blight* over it; said it was an extraordinary frisk, but that it was like me; no body else would think of it; that it never would surprise him (even after hearing me complain, as I did eternally, of pressure of business and want of time), to be told of my having set off on a party of pleasure *any where*, with *any body*. He went into Murray's, while I walked about Albemarle Street. After a short interval came out for me, and he and I joined Murray in his office. Murray then repeated to me what he had just said to R., that his *only* reason for announcing the "Papers of Lord Byron" separate from the "Life," was to give a sort of *éclat* to his list of publications, and that he had not the least intention of departing from the plan which he, and I, and Hobhouse had agreed upon for the work in my last. Said I was very glad to hear this from him; that if he had but condescended to answer the letter I had written to him, my mind would have been easier on the subject. Both Rogers and I then enforced upon him the expediency of writing immediately, to make the same explanation to Hobhouse, who would be sure to view the announcement in the same light as I did; and who, if alarmed or displeased at such a departure from the plan agreed upon, might interpose his authority as executor summarily, and preclude both me and

Murray from the liberty of publishing any paper of Lord Byron's whatever. I then said that as he must be aware of my situation, and the inconvenience of my being kept in suspense any longer, I trusted he would be able, by the time Mr. Rogers returned to town, to come to some definite arrangement on the subject. Said he would as soon as possible. * * * Called upon Luttrell; will *not* publish his verses in the "Times." Went to the Longmans to tell them of my idea of going with Scott; Longman highly pleased at the plan. Told him I should give Scott till to-morrow to consider of it, as there was certainly some degree of courage (standing in such high favour as he does with the King) in choosing a political reprobate like me for his companion. Longman said, Scott was not a man likely to have any fears or scruples of this kind. "Not if left to himself, probably; but he will meet shabby people enough to put it into his head, and, at all events, I will wait the chance of his changing his mind before I determine." Dined with Rogers at five; was to have gone with him to the play, but got off this, as I am to see the same play to-morrow night. Quoted a good parody of Luttrell's written during the famine and brown-loaf time:

"Deepens the curses of each hungry oaf,
And breathes a browner horror o'er the loaf."

Talked of my "Sheridan;" gave me great pleasure by saying, that among those who most disliked it, and most differed with me, there was but one opinion as to the honesty and impartial feeling of the work. Adair, he says, feels more than any one the views which I have taken of Fox's career, and will not be satisfied, he thinks, without leaving some answer behind him. Criticised my manner of telling some of the anecdotes, and, generally, with justice. Told him I regretted having put in those anecdotes, at all, as I feared (what I had, indeed, anticipated would be the case) that they were generally thought poor and unworthy of Sheridan's fame. Wrote to Bessy to-day, to tell her of Scott's proposal, and of the disposition I felt to avail myself of it.

24th. On my way to breakfast with Newton called at Sir Walter's; a party with him at breakfast; not a word said by either himself or Miss Scott about my going with them to Paris. Felt how right I was in concluding that, upon reflection (or rather upon the repre-

sentations of others), he would grow less eager on the subject. Richardson and Dr. Holland among his guests at breakfast. Sat to Newton. After leaving him, in passing through Pall Mall, met Scott. "Well," he said, "it's all fixed; I have sent for your passport." "Do you really mean," I asked, "that I am to go with you?" "Most certainly," he answered; "I have quite set my heart on it." He then said, that he did not mean to stay more than seven days in Paris; that he would refuse all dinner engagements, &c. In talking of going from the Tower (which is the way he has fixed upon) said, "and we shall eat such a hearty dinner when we arrive at Calais!" Left him at his own door, promising to be at dinner at five with his daughters, to go to the play. Forgot to mention, by the bye, that Sir Charles Stuart (to whom he went the other day with Rogers) mentioned (as the two persons most likely to be useful to him in anecdotes of Napoleon), Pozzo di Borgo and my friend Gallois.* Drove with L. to Pater-noster Row: drew a bill upon Power for 150*l.*, which they cashed for me. Told me they had now succeeded to the whole property of the "Edinburgh Review," and begged me to do something for it. Said I had some idea of reviewing the two tragedies on the subject of "Anne Boleyn." To dinner at Lockhart's at five. Scott and Lockhart stood by while we were dining, as they were engaged to Wilmot Horton's dinner. All evidently bent on my joining them in their journey. Said I should be able to give them a decisive answer to-morrow; but that, at all events, it would not, I feared, be in my power to start with them on Thursday morning, but my intention was, if I went, to follow by the mail on Thursday night, and catch them at Calais, or a stage or two farther. Went to the play (to Mrs. Coutts's box) with Mrs. Lockhart, Miss Scott, and Capt. Lockhart. In talking of her father's plans of retrenchment, Miss Scott said, "Papa is a bad hand at economising;" and then added, laughing, "All his great plans of retrenchment have ended in selling my horse!" The play, "Peveril of the Peak;" the third or fourth night. In trying to make out the plot Miss Scott said, "One confuses the stories of

* Sir Charles Stuart mentioned likewise the Count Daru as likely to know much of Napoleon's life and government.—J. R.

those novels, there are so many of them ; 'pon my word, papa must write no more ;" a proof that the mask is about to be thrown off entirely.

25th. Breakfasted at the Athenæum. Note from Lady Listowel to know what day I can dine with her ; could not give a decided answer. Met Bishop at Power's at one, to arrange together the Greek work and my set of "Glees." Received, while there, Bessy's answer to my letter ; leaves me wholly to my own decision with respect to the trip to Paris. Almost made up my mind to go, but still had a feeling that I *should not* ; the idea of taking advantage of Scott's *bouhommie*, and letting him do what he might afterwards repent of, hung about me still. Resolved, however, to make an effort to start *with* him from the Tower, and, if I could not manage that, not to go at all. Did a good deal with Bishop in the time. Called upon Scott on my way home ; told him I meant to make an effort to start with him from the Tower in the morning. He said, "That's right ; but what will you do about your passport ?" He then expressed his regret at not having my name put down in his, but asked did I not think I might, by taking a hackney coach and driving to Portland Place, prevail upon the secretary there (though it was now past the hour of business) to give me a passport. After some more conversation on the subject, left him. Made up my mind to give up the journey ; whether it was fancy or not, thought I had seen a *little* change in Scott's manner on the subject ; a slight abatement of his former eagerness for my going. Dined at Miss White's : company, Hallam, Sharpe, Sir B. Hobhouse, Luttrell, Captains Head and Denham, and Miss Drew. While Head was describing the use of the lasso in catching men as well as animals, Luttrell said the first syllable of it had caught many a man. In talking of the *Eumelian* (?) Club, of which Ashe was the founder, somebody said that a son of that Ashe was at present chairman of it. "Still in its *ashes* live their wonted fires," said Luttrell. In the evening found Sir Walter, his daughter, and the Lockharts (who were all to have dined with Miss White) on going up-stairs. All reproached me for having given up my thoughts of accompanying them, which I had mentioned before dinner, and at which Sharpe and the rest expressed their surprise. Gave

Scott the letter of introduction to Gallois which I had written for him, Hallam having also written a few words in it. Saw the Scotts (who went away early, having to start at four in the morning) down to their carriage, and Scott, who all the way downstairs was expressing his sorrow at my not going with him, said in parting with me, "It would be odd enough, after all, if your name *was* in my passport." This struck me as curious, and as a good deal confirming the suspicion that occurred to me to-day. The light that I have been all along expecting to break in upon him (with respect to the imprudence of having me for a companion) was, I have no doubt, insinuated yesterday at Horton's by the colonial secretary himself, who is just the sort of man to have put such a thing into his head. Indeed, though (for Scott's sake) I have not mentioned this suspicion to a creature, I have very little doubt of my being right in it.

26th. Breakfasted at the Athenæum. Paid some visits ; called on Shee. His surprise at hearing that any of my Whig friends were discontented with my "Life of Sheridan." Said that if he himself had been inclined to find any fault with me, it would have been for over-partiality to that party and the aristocracy in general. Called on Croker ; talked of Scott ; thinks he sees an alteration in him ; that he is more absent and *distract*, and that his spirits have more of effort in them than formerly ; ridiculed the idea of his visit of *investigation* to Paris, for eight days only ; agreed with me that it was only a journey for the booksellers, to give an *appearance* of research to the work. On my saying how much more agreeable it was, in the long run, to converse with men who give you facts without fancy, than with those who give you fancy without facts, he said he quite agreed with me, and asked me who did I think of all others was the man he would choose as the most agreeable companion on a long journey ? The Duke of Wellington, because he had more important facts to tell than any man of his time, and told them sensibly and simply. Took Luttrell to dine at Mrs. Montgomerie's, Lucy having asked him yesterday. Having some idea that Bessy might possibly come up to town this evening, in consequence of my letter of yesterday, waited to see some of the Bath coaches come in before I went to dinner. On

our way I was mentioning that some one had said of Sharpe's very dark complexion that he looked as if the dye of his old trade (hat making) had got engrained into his face. "Yes (said Luttrell), darkness that may be *felt*."

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27th. Breakfasted at Lansdowne House with Guthrie, Lord Kerry's tutor. Took him afterwards to Newton's to see my picture, which is now ("positively for the last time of performance") finished.

28th. Went to the Charter House with L.: called upon Bessy's mother. Paid a visit to Lockhart, who proposed to give me a seat in his carriage to Croker's at Kensington, where I dine to-day. Called upon the secretary of the Royal Institution on the subject of my giving lectures there; expressed great anxiety that I *should*, and begged I would let him know my determination before the next board day. Company at Croker's, besides the Lockharts and myself, Sir T. Lawrence and Mr. Locker. Some talk of the etiquette to be observed with kings. Story of an ambassador to the King of Naples, who fearing that he should forget the speech he was to deliver, had it written out in his hat, but no sooner had he made his bow to the King, and directed his eyes to the hat, than his Majesty said, "*Couvrez-vous, M. l'Ambassadeur*" (which, it appears, is the etiquette or privilege of ambassadors), and the poor diplomatist was thus deprived of his speech. A circumstance illustrative of this mentioned by Bassompierre, of his walking in the gallery with Charles I., with his hat of course on, when the Duke of Buckingham in his familiar way joined them; upon which Bassompierre, considering his royal audience terminated by this interruption, took off his hat. Bassompierre mentions that the Duke was silly enough to suppose that he took off his hat to him, and rallied him on his formality; a mistake under which Bassompierre thought it was politic still to leave him. Sung in the evening. Brought back by the Lockharts. Packed upon my return home. Forgot to mention that one day at the beginning of the week, met Walsh the musician, who has a large musical establishment, and who expressed a strong anxiety to know whether he could by any means become a proprietor of my musical works, or have even a share in them. Urged me strongly to write an opera, and said, if I

had any fear in running the risk, he would at once buy it of me, and take the risk on himself.

29th. Set off at half-past seven. An odd fellow in the coach, who (according to his own account) was on his way to Ireland for the purpose of demanding an explanation from a man who had struck him in a coffee-house in Paris, and had set out for Ireland next morning, leaving him his address in Galway. This man who struck him was his brother-in-law, and did it in revenge for his having run away with the sister from Cheltenham. Talked very largely of his family, of his travelling with four horses always; and it appeared that he had now taken a packet to himself to bring him from Boulogne, which cost him fifteen guineas; altogether a most prosperous and communicative person. Found all well when I got home. A note from Lady Lansdowne to ask me over there to-morrow.

31st. Rogers came to see Bessy: very kind to her: said afterwards, "She is very beautiful." Took him across to the Napier's; saw only her. Walked to Bowood by Spy Park, where we met Napier, who went part of the way with us. Dined and slept at Bowood. Miss Ricardo at dinner.

Nov. 1st. Breakfasted at nine with Rogers, who was to set off in a coach for town. Went with him to the Black Dog, where we walked up and down the road for an hour and a-half nearly, waiting for the coach. Told him something of my Egyptian story. After seeing him off, returned to Bowood; promised to dine there to-day. Walked home and returned to dinner; no one but Bailly. Slept there.

2nd. Conversation after breakfast about universities. It tells well for freedom from restrictions that Trinity College, Cambridge, which is the least exclusive of any boasts the greatest list of illustrious names, Bacon, Newton, Barrow, &c. &c. They have the heads of Newton's lectures at Trinity. Gibbon, Locke, and Swift, tell against universities. "*Cateraque* (says Milton) *ingenio non subeunda meo*." Turned to Gibbon's fine tribute to Lord North in the preface to his "History." *Quære*, Johnson's reason for quoting Barrow so little (if at all) in his "Dictionary?" Returned home to dinner.

3rd. to 5th. Busy for Power: my Greek work and glees. A note from Lady Lansdowne to ask me to meet the Clutterbucks

on Tuesday next, and Lady Morley on the following Thursday: said I would come the latter. Sent to Barnes this week "Ode to the Sublime Porte" and "Stanzas on Wilmot Horton."

6th to 8th. The Henry Napiers come to Bromham; walked with them one day to Spy Park.

9th. Dined at Bowood: company, Lady Morley, her son Lord Boringdon, her nephew, and the Henry Napiers. * * * The following French words, "*Pie a haut nid, caille a bas nid*;" difficult to tell on hearing them, what language they are. Talked of English directions written by foreigners. Mrs. H. N. mentioned, "*Hai par Corné, Piqué du lait*," for Hyde Park Corner, Piccadilly. Sung a good deal. Lady M. sang some comic songs of her own which she had written for the acted charades they had at Saltram a year or two since (for one of which, by the bye, Canning wrote a prologue). Altogether liked her better than ever I did before: she has both fun and good sense in no ordinary degree. Slept there.

10th. After breakfast Lady L. pressed me to stay over to-day, and though I intended to refuse, did not. As it rained hard, ordered the carriage to take me home to tell Bessy. Bessy disappointed, having expected I would dine at home to-day; prevailed on her to take advantage of the carriage and to go and pass the evening with Mrs. Hughes; left her at Buckhill and returned to Bowood. The same party: singing in the evening. Lord L. mentioned a circumstance of the private secretary of Vergennes, on landing at Dover at night (just before the peace with America) finding himself, the instant he set foot on shore, whipped up suddenly in the arms of two men, who, putting a lantern to his face, exclaimed, "'Tis he!" and letting him down again, mounted horses that were near and set off. This was a funding speculation; they had had private information that he was expected, and were on the watch for him. Told an anecdote of the Spanish ambassador, at the time when the King's life was attempted by Margaret Nicholson, taking horse instantly and setting off for Windsor, where he posted himself in the window of the inn by which the messenger with the account must pass. As soon as the messenger arrived the ambassador accompanied him, and having been a witness of the transaction, was able to assure the Queen that his

Majesty was perfectly safe. At the same time taking care to inform her that though his zeal had impelled him instantly to set off for Windsor to give her this information, his feeling of *etiquette* prevented him from intruding upon her Majesty till the regular messenger arrived. This mixture of zeal and etiquette was the very thing for the atmosphere of Windsor, and the ambassador (De Campos, I believe) was ever after a great favourite with their Majesties.

11th to 30th. Passed the remainder of this month (with the exception of the Devizes ball on the 14th, and a dinner at Phipps's on the 24th) busily at home; occupied in adding to and correcting the Greek work for Power, in writing an article for the "Edinburgh" (a task which I detest, and therefore always do badly), and in furnishing two more squibs for the "Times,"—the "Ghost of Miltiades" and "Corn and Catholics." In a letter of C. Sheridan, he says of the former, 'The Ghost of Miltiades' *must* be yours, I should think; if not so, I am very curious to know the 'S.' who can so imitate your union of point with power and fun with bitterness.' Had a letter also in its praise from Barnes. Sent some epigrams of Luttrell's to the "Times," of which Barnes says: "The epigrams are neat, but appear to me feeble." The same opinion he had expressed to me before of L.'s poetry in general. Received a very kind letter from Sir W. Scott, inclosing me one from Gallois, and repeating his invitation of us all to Abbotsford next summer. Wrote to Murray to know when he would be able to meet Rogers on the subject of the "Life." Saw Lord Lansdowne two or three times before he started for town, which was on the 18th. Had little Tom's schoolmaster (a good, honest Dissenter) to dine with us on the 21st, and had Phipps, Hughes, and Clifton (Bowles's curate) to meet him.

Dec. 1 to 9th. Correcting the proofs of my Greek work. Bishop having failed at giving my idea of the "Song for the War Dance," I played him a few bars, when in town, as my notion of the sort of subject it ought to be. He took down the notes I played, and when his new settling came I found he had exactly preserved them. The rest of the composition, however, not being at all what I liked, I again suggested a totally different harmony, as well as melody, and he, very good humouredly adopted it almost note for note; so that the

composition now, though under his name, is nearly as much mine as any thing I ever wrote. Received a civil note from Murray on the 9th, to say, "the unexampled abundance of materials sent in from various quarters has embarrassed and delayed him, but that he hoped to be ready for me in little more than a week." Had received letters a day or two before from the Longmans, in which they inclosed an extract from the new list of publications, announcing the "Life" with my name. The letter from Orme, of the 5th, contained a proposal to me to become editor of an annual work which they meditate, on the plan of the "Forget-me-not," "Souvenir," &c. Speaks sanguinely of the prospect of its success, and says, if it turns out as they expect, it would give me an annual income of from five hundred to a thousand a year.

10th. Wrote to Orme, telling him my views *for*, as well as *against*, the plan which he had proposed to me, and leaving him and his partners to decide for me between them. Employed about a squib for the "Times," but chose too large a canvass, and puzzled myself with trying to bring it within proper compass.

11th. Sent off the verses to the "Times," "A Case of Libel." Wrote also to Barnes on the subject of a letter, which I have received from Luttrell, expressing a desire to have some remuneration for the things he sends, or rather proposes to send, the "Times." Lord Lansdowne returned from town yesterday evening.

13th. Returned to my Egyptian story. Dined at the Vincents': company, besides myself and Bessy, the McDonalds of Bishops Cannings, and Prowse. McDonald mentioned Frazer's book, in which he says, that being delayed for some time at a town on the shores of the Caspian, he was lucky enough to be enabled to amuse himself with a copy of "Lalla Rookh," which a Persian, who was in England some time ago, lent him.

14th. Guthrie called: told me of the war with Spain, and that Lord Lansdowne had set off for town again the day before yesterday.

17th. Walked over to Bowood: met Lord L. on the way to meet me. Talked of the probabilities for and against war. Says the Ministers are in great consternation; all so very civil, which is an invariable sign of difficulty and alarm with them. Lunched and walked back again.

18th and 19th. On the 19th had Napier, Prowse, and Clifton to dine with us for the ball. Danced two quadrilles and a country dance with Eliza Houlton, Elizabeth Starkey, and Mrs. Phipps.

20th. At work at my story, which has been announced for "soon after Christmas." The "Morning Chronicle" spells it the "Epicurian:" wrote a note to the L.'s about this. A letter from Orme to say that, in consequence of my views of the proposal they made to me, they feel convinced that I ought not to accept the editorship, and are much inclined to give up all share in the work themselves.

21st and 22nd. Walked over to Bowood this latter day. Company: Miss Fox and Miss Vernon, Mary Fox, and Sir J. and Lady Graham. A good deal of politics. Graham gave a description of the effect of Canning's war-speech on the House. A proof of the excitement he had produced in his audience, their being ripe for such a boast as, "I called a new world into existence." When he said, "I thought of Spain and the Indies," 'twas in a sort of scream. Nearly fainted after he had done.

23rd. Walked home to inquire after little Russell, whom I left suffering a good deal of irritation and fever with the chicken-pox. Bessy, too, a good deal worn out by her disturbed nights with him. Found them both better. Began something for the "Times." Returned to dinner at Bowood: the same party. Lord L. spoke of the vigorous state he had found Lord Grenville's mind in the other day, though his body was so evidently and rapidly going. Comparison of Canning's late speech with Pitt's of '93. Talked of Allen's strange and suspicious quotation from Strada against Lingard; Lingard's answer dignified, and like that of a man conscious of his strength. Allen furious against *all* Catholics, for Lingard's sake; attempts to explain the matter by saying that he had copied the passage in pencil, and without stopping it, and that when he came to remedy the omission afterwards this convenient punctuation was the consequence. In talking of light and humorous poetry Graham said, "After the 'Ghost of Miltiades' one gets hard to be pleased in such writing." Slept there.

24th. Talking of Brougham. Graham quoted the termination of a speech of his at the begin-

ning of the Queen's trial, when, upon his entering on the subject, the Chancellor said, he must confine himself for the present to the time and manner of bringing in the bill. Having got in all he wanted to say, in discussing the subject of the time, he concluded thus, "As to the *manner*, it matters not to my royal client *what* clerk at your lordship's table shall read the bill; whether the second reading shall precede the first, or whether it be chanted, said, or sung." Returned home after breakfast. Finished the verses for the "Times."

26th. Gave a gay dinner, dancing, and supper to the servants in honour of Christmas.

27th and 28th. A very kind letter from Barnes, bidding me consult my own wishes entirely both as to time and subjects; saying, that he thought much more highly of my last (the "Case of Libel") than I seemed to do myself; that though it was from the nature of the subject elaborate, there was thought and wit enough in it for half a dozen poems. A kind letter, also, from Croker, in answer to one I wrote to him, asking his opinion as to my Bermuda situation, whether I should give it up, &c. &c. Advises me not to give it up, and thinks he could procure me a proper person fit to be my deputy. Tells me, also, an interesting anecdote of Lord Byron. Dined on the 27th at Locke's: discussion with V. and P. on Unitarianism, their ignorance on the subject.

29th. Walked over to Bowood to dinner. Abercromby and his son called upon me in the morning, but I did not see them. Company: the Grahams, Sir J. Macdonald, two Abercrombys, Lord Seymour, Misses Fox and Vernon, and Mary Fox, Okeden, and Leveson Smith. Sung a good deal in the evening.

30th. Okeden mentioned having seen Lord Byron in a state of great excitement. On one occasion he made an effort to restrain himself, and succeeded; on the other, he gave full vent to his violence. The former was at Copet; when, on coming to dinner, he saw unexpectedly among the guests Mrs. Harvey (Beckford's sister), whom he had not seen since the period of his marriage, and who was the person chiefly consulted by Lady Byron, I believe, on the subject of his proposals to her. He stopped short upon seeing her, turned deadly pale, and then clenching his hand, as if with a violent effort of self-restraint, resumed his usual manner. The other occasion was at

Milan, when he and Hobhouse were ordered to quit the city in twenty-four hours, in consequence of a scrape which Polidori had brought them into the night before at the Opera, by desiring an officer, who sat before them, to take off his cap, and on his refusal to do so, attempted to take it off himself. The officer, upon this, coolly desired Polidori to follow him into the street, and the other two followed, ripe for a duel. The officer, however, assured them he had no such thing in his contemplation; that he was the officer of the guard for the night; and that, as to taking off his cap, it was contrary to orders, and he might lose his commission by doing so. Another part of his duty was to carry off Polidori to the guard-house, which he accordingly did, and required the attendance of Byron and Hobhouse in the morning. The consequence of all this was, that the three were obliged to leave Milan immediately; Polidori having, in addition to this punishment, "bad conduct" assigned as the reason of his dismissal. It was in a few minutes after their receiving this notification that Okeden found Lord B. storming about the room, and Hobhouse after him, vainly endeavouring to tranquillise his temper. Must ask Hobhouse about this. In talking of Erskine's *jeux d'esprit*, Lord L. mentioned four lines he once wrote upon an inn window, on a great attorney, named Terry; thereby losing, as he said, a great number of briefs. Among the inscriptions on the window was one, written by the attorney himself, announcing that, on such a day, Mr. Terry had arrived here from Tenterden, and it was under this that Erskine wrote

"What can it matter how or when
Terry arrives from Tenterden;
For when he's crost the Stygian ferry,
Who'll ever ask—What's come of Terry?"

Talking of Burdett's having learnt all he knows late in life, and of his exhibiting accordingly all the defects of this kind of education, mentioned Parr's horror of these *Οψιμας* (as he calls them); his only exception being in favour of Payne Knight, whom, though late-learned, he allowed to be a scholar. Lord L., Okeden, and Leveson Smith walked home with me.

31st. Received a very kind letter from a Mr. Burke, a gentleman of Caius College, accompanying a collection of Spanish airs, and saying, "Some of them, I am sure, you will

find very beautiful, and nothing is wanting to set their beauties in the most favourable light but a somewhat richer accompaniment, and such words as none can write so well as yourself."

He concludes, "with the highest admiration of your talents, and esteem for your political character, allow me to subscribe," &c. &c. A letter from my old friend, John Dalby, informing me of a communication he had received from a Major Dwyer, dated Naples, the day after Lord Hastings' death, informing him by Lord Hastings' desire of the event, and begging that he would also communicate it to me.

1827.

JANUARY 1st, 1827. Working at my story. Bessy still ill, and obliged to give up all thoughts of going to Bowood to-morrow night.

2nd. My story. Sent for a chaise; and set off between seven and eight—Napier, his daughter, myself, Anastasia, and little Tom—for Bowood. A large party: Lord and Lady Suffolk and Lady Julia, Lord Duncan, Lord Seymour, &c., and *all the neighbours*. Little Tom looking very pretty and exceedingly admired; poor Anastasia but little noticed. The Suffolks very kind: Lady S. expressed great regret at Bessy's not being there, and hoped that we would all come and pay them a visit at Charlton. Supped; danced afterwards, and were not home till three o'clock.

4th. Walked over to Bowood to dinner; company: Lords Duncan and Seymour, Elwyn, L. Smith, Vernon Smith and his wife, Labouchere, Short, Osman Ricardo and his wife. Sung a good deal in the evening. Talking of epitaphs, L. Smith said that Mackintosh thinks that of Gray on his mother the most perfect in the language. Those of Canning on Pitt, and Sheridan on Nelson, not very good. Some wise person's criticism on the conclusion of the former, "He lived without ostentation, and died poor;" thought that the words "died poor" sounded meanly, and that it would be better, "died in distressed circumstances." Lord L. quoted some pretty verses of Piron's upon a picture of people skating; the two last something this way:

"Telle est de nos plaisirs la brillante surface,
Glissez, mortels; n'appuyez pas."

Mentioned the epitaph on Addington, concluding,

"Politique soi-dissant,
Et médecin malgré lui."

5th. A good deal of conversation after breakfast. On my pointing out three or four lines of blank verse succeeding each other in Sandford's lecture (just published), a question arose whether one ought always to reject a sentence, however forcible and well expressed, because it happened to have fallen into this metrical arrangement. *Quere*, whether many such lines occur in Milton's prose? Quoted an instance at the end of a famous passage of his (where he has the phrase, "mewing her mighty youth"), "Prognosticate a time of strife and schism." George Selwyn's criticism on Burke's "Reflections." "I could not get on with it; at the end of the first page I had to send for my apothecary to ask the meaning of some allusion to his profession, which I could not understand: at the end of the second I had to send to my carpenter to explain to me," &c., &c. Elwyn quoted what he had himself heard Burke say in a speech towards the end of the Hastings' trial. "You might as well attempt to make a perfumer of a man who was bred on a dunghill, as to think of making a statesman out of this bullock contractor." Before luncheon sung over some things with Mrs. Vernon Smith. In talking of America with Labouchere, it appeared from his account, that though there is no intolerance in the *laws* of that country, there is abundance of it in society; particularly among the northern states, where a man that does not go to a church of some kind forfeits caste, and in any election for a public office would not stand the slightest chance. It seems as if a certain portion of religious malice must exist in every community, and where the laws are free from it the people take it up. After luncheon, Lord Lansdowne, the two Smiths, Labouchere, and Lord Seymour walked the greater part of the way home with me. Money called upon me before dinner; full of praise of Lady Lansdowne. Told me circumstances that had come accidentally to his knowledge; of her *personal* attention to the poor; of her sitting day after day, reading by the bedside of a poor old man, who was dying of a mortification that had spread half way up his body, the stench of which, in the small room where he lay, was

such as even medical men did not often encounter; her attending to see a poor woman put decently in her coffin, &c. &c.

6th. Walked over to Bowood to get a paper, which I left there, containing a list of books I promised to procure at trade price for Hughes. Found them at luncheon. Lady L. all kindness; said that they wanted me very much; they had got "dreadfully flat." Promised, if I could, to come on Monday. When I went to my bedroom for the paper, found every thing ready; the fire lighted; my things airing, &c., as if I were a regular inmate. Lord Caernarvon, who arrived yesterday, proposed to walk part of the way home with me. In talking of Grattan, mentioned his having heard Grattan say that, when a young man at the Temple, he had been much taken with Lord Chatham's style, and had made it his model. This agrees very much with what I have remarked in the Life of Sheridan. In talking of George R. Fitzgerald, Grattan said he was a very good man for *one* hanging, but not for *two* (alluding to the circumstance of the rope having broken with him, and his cowardice on being brought on the scaffold again).

8th. Wrote to Lady L. to say that I could not come to-day, having some proofs to correct for Power, which would take me all this evening and to-morrow morning. A note back from her to say that she did not see why I couldn't bring my proofs with me; that I should have a large table and a room all to myself to-morrow morning, and that it was bad for my eyes to work at night; "so pray, come." Did not, however, being unable to spare the time. Began some verses for the "Times," "The Slave."

9th. Finished the verses and sent them off; also some proofs to Power. Walked to Bowood to dinner: company, Lord Caernarvon and his daughter, and the Smiths; sung in the evening. Got the "Edinburgh" this morning with the article on my "Life of Sheridan;" most friendly done. Slept at Bowood.

10th. Wrote to Jeffrey to thank him. The Caernarvons and Smiths went off after breakfast. Desperate day. Looked over Johnson's review of Soame Jenyns' work on the "Origin of Evil," with Lord L. The application of Soame Jenyns' theory (with respect to the delight of superior beings in mischief) to himself, though too elaborately introduced, able

and striking. His image of "mistaking fogs for land," good; but when he comes to "storms of objection," bad and pompous. Stayed luncheon, and they then ordered the carriage to take me home, the weather being so bad. Borrowed the Bishop of Bristol's work upon Tertullian.

11th. Jeffrey having used the information which I sent him respecting the Prince's gift of 4000*l.* to Sheridan, wrote to the Longmans to beg that they would call upon Burgess (from whom Bain, my authority, must, I suspect, have gained the information), to procure any additional circumstances from him that may verify the fact. Worked at my story. Dined with Evans (Tom's schoolmaster) and had a dreadful walk of it to his house. A good many at dinner; most of them intelligent men, and all of them had been, I believe, his father's pupils. Talked of Milton's "Arianism;" of the Bishop of Salisbury's late work on the subject, &c. &c. Home pretty early.

12th. Found that Bessy had fixed this evening for Napier to come and read us some of his "History of the Peninsular War." The part he read (being chiefly about the complicated operations of the different Juntas at the beginning of the war) rather confused and heavy, as he himself felt it to be.

13th and 14th. At work.

15th. Lord Lansdowne called, just as I was setting out to call upon him. Bowles, too. Bowles brought James Hughes's translation into Greek Anacreontics of a drinking song of his. The phrase *ov Zeapos*, for *invisible*, was (I remarked) not correct; *Zeapos* means *spectabilis*, and the word for invisible is *aoparos*. When I said this, Bowles exclaimed, "Bravo! it was not without reason that Parr called you a good scholar." Inclosed 30*l.* to my mother to pay her half year's rent with 20*l.* of it, and divide the other 10*l.* between Corry (to whom I owe 5*l.*) and my tailor.

16th. Walked to Bowood. Met Lord L.; walked back with him. Talked of the man who wrote a book some time since on the "Malaria of London;" and who, it seems, keeps a person that is particularly liable to ague as a sort of *miasmeter*, wherewith to measure the degree of badness of the air in different parts of London. He then accompanied me almost all the way home, and I saw him back again as far as the George; making altogether, for me, about ele-

ven miles. Was asked to Locke's to dinner, but refused.

17th and 18th. On this latter day had a party of young folks to share in our twelfth-cake: Napiers, Prowses, Lockes, and Starkeys. Danced with them all night. Nine and twenty supped in my study.

19th and 20th. Sent some day this week a poem on the Duke of York's death to the "Times," called "The Slave." Had a letter from Luttrell about it. I *must* thank you for "The Slave." Sent me a charade of his own on Cobbett, which I forwarded to Barnes, with two old epigrams of my own.

21st and 22nd. Sent, the 21st, two poems to Barnes, "Affair of Honour in High Life" and "Tout pour la Tripe." Had a letter from him, saying the verses on the Duke of York were excellent, and came most apropos.

23rd to 25th. Went to dinner at Houlton's. 25th, Lord Lansdowne called for me in his carriage at four. Mentioned with great praise my verses in the "Times" of yesterday, "Affair of Honour," &c. Company at dinner, the Shirleys, Elwyn, and Bowles. Singing in the evening. I tried over my glee of "Hip, hip, hurrah!" which is to be sung at the Anacreontic to-morrow; all seemed to think it would have a good effect. Slept at Houlton's.

26th. Conversation after breakfast about meteoric stones; that some of them have come quite near to earth, and then been attracted up again: Davy believes this. The celebrated blades of Damascus are professedly made of the meteoric iron. Left Farley with Lord L. for Bath between eleven and twelve. Talked all the way of theology. Marcion's notion of two Gods, one the author of the Law and the other of the Gospel, very like the Avatars (Lord L. remarked) of the Indian theology. Neither of us could recollect the name of the writer who has left a dialogue on Christianity between a pagan and a Christian (Minucius Felix). On my arrival at Bath went in pursuit of some of the professional singers to rehearse my glee. Found Manners; played it over to him, and begged him to instruct the others. Borrowed two books at Upham's, "Vansleb's Egypt" and "Murtadi's," a work on the same subject. Dressed at Elwyn's, and was at the York House an hour before dinner to hear the music rehearsed. A MS. glee of Bowles's also to be sung. About forty-

three at dinner; Lord Lansdowne and Lord Liverpool of the party. Got well situated, within one of Lord Lansdowne, and nearly opposite Lord Liverpool; was glad to have an opportunity of seeing a little of the latter. Gave me an idea of a common-minded man; that is to say, a common mind elevated by circumstances and situation as high as it was capable of going. Directed some of his conversation very civilly to me, and asked me to drink wine with him. My glee received most enthusiastically; a distinct peal of applause after every verse, and there was no less than five. Took the pianoforte myself, which put the fellows on their mettle, otherwise they would have sung it sleepily and professionally. In one of the verses there is a toast,

"To the poet who sings; to the warrior who fights;
To the statesman who speaks in the cause of man's rights."

And when we were rehearsing it before dinner, one of the singers said to me, "This is particularly applicable to-day, sir, as Lord Liverpool is to dine here!" little knowing, poor man, how much Lord Liverpool's notions and mine as to the rights of man differ. A few of us remained some time after the grandees went away, and I sung two or three more songs. Walked home with Lord James O'Brien, who told me Lord L. had expressed a great wish to have a copy of my glee for Lady L. Slept at Elwyn's.

27th. Dawson, the Orange parson (brother to my friend George), and Duncan and Houlton, at breakfast. Much amused by their talking quietly to Dawson about remoulding the Church establishment in Ireland, getting rid of tithes, &c. &c., he hardly knowing what to answer. Lord Lansdowne came after breakfast. Went to look at Barker's fresco of the "Massacre of the Scots," and afterwards walked with Lord L. to the White Hart, from whence we set off for home between twelve and one. Agreed very much with the view I took of Lord Liverpool, but said, that, "as a speaker, *pro re nata*, nobody could surpass him either for clearness or for the tact with which he knew how to avoid what ought not to be said." Dropped me at his Chippenham gate, and I walked home.

29th. Walked to Bowood to dinner; a large party of my neighbours, twenty-one in all; Bailey and Sir John Newport the only inmates. Old Sir John very agreeable after dinner.

Talked much of Garrick, whom he used to meet at "old Mr. Wilmot's," and repeated two or three unpublished copies of verses of his; one called "The Prophecy," of which he afterwards told me some additional lines, which (from their containing an attack on churchmen and tithes) he had omitted at dinner, on account of the Member for Oxford and the persons who were present. Sung in the evening.

30th. Bailey looking for a fine passage in "Pindar," beginning (I think, he said) *ἄνευ οἷς ἐστὶν ἀναγκή*. Mentioned the indifference of the ancients to death; the coolness with which Xenophon talks of the deaths of some of his companions. On my quoting a passage from the "Journal des Débats," on the new law against the press, in which (speaking of the age of Louis XIV.), it says, *L'admission de Molière à la table de Louis XIV. était la Charte de ce temps là*, a question rose whether Molière was really so admitted. Molière anxious to conciliate the King in favour of his "Tartuffe;" this evident from speech towards the conclusion, "*Nous vivons sous un Prince ennemi de la fraude.*" Bailey (who is a great traveller, and has been every where) said that Maundrel's was the best account of "Palestine;" Chateaubriand's description of scenery beautiful, but not to be depended on; his description of the "Dead Sea," however, very correct. It is from this Scott has drawn in his "Talisman." Mentioned Sandys as a good traveller; had never heard of Herbert! Lord L. and Bailey walked to the cottage with me and Napier; Bailey then went on with the latter to Bromham, and I took Lord L. back on his way by the valley of Chitway and my favourite well, with which he was much delighted.

Feb. 1st to 4th. On the 4th set out to walk to Bowood to take leave of the Lansdownes; met him just near the cottage, coming over to take leave of us. Walked back with him and lunched. After they went in to chapel, copied out and dispatched to Barnes some verses, "An Ode to Ferdinand."

6th to 11th. At home (with the exception of a dinner on the 9th at Spy Park) and hard at work. Sent back the article on "Anne Boleyn," which I had had from Jeffrey to make some corrections in. Finished the preface for the fifth edition of "Sheridan," having in vain waited for some satisfactory informa-

tion from Burgess on the subject of the Prince's gift to Sheridan.

12th. Sent up some verses to the "Times," "Hat *versus* Wig." Had a letter from Shiel, to beg that I would use my influence with the editor of the "Times" to prevent such articles as appeared the other day on the subject of the prosecution against him, which he thinks unfair, as prejudging his case, and likely to be of material injury to him. Hannah's illness proves to be fever.

13th. Wrote to Barnes about Shiel, Bessy copying out my Egyptian story, in order to be able to take up some of the MSS. with me to town.

14th and 15th. Ditto. Dined on the 15th at Napier's: Bessy and myself, Elizabeth and Augusta Starkey. The doctor having advised that Hannah should be removed to her friends before infection appeared, Bessy took her in a chaise this morning to Devizes; left her at her father's, leaving her a provision of fruit, broths, &c., and giving orders to our tradesmen there to supply her with every thing she wants.

16th to 18th. Bessy transcribing. Wrote a long letter to Bryan, giving him an account of my proceedings with Longman and Murray, and telling him of my intention to appropriate the money of Anastasia that is in Longman's hands, to pay off my debt. Wrote, also, to Rogers, to apprise him of my coming.

19th. Transcribing and packing up.

20th. Bessy set off for Buckhill in the Starkey's carriage; followed her at three o'clock. Dined at Hughes's and slept there.

21st. Started in the coach for town at eight. Party inside, an old Irish gentleman and his grand-daughter, a very pretty girl, just arrived by the Bristol packet. After sounding each other for some time in Irish politics, found that he was a violent Orangeman. Avowed myself of a different opinion; upon which, taking me for an Englishman, he lamented our ignorance in this country of Irish affairs; the girl, too, as violent an anti-Chatolic as her grandpapa, which I liked her all the better for; argued playfully with them both. When we stopped to breakfast found Lord Arthur Hill among the outside passengers; whispered him not to betray me. In the course of the journey owned to them I was an Irishman, and told the girl that when she knew who I was, she would, perhaps, forgive me for being a

rebel; offered to put myself in her hands to convert me. Told them quantities of Irish stories, and kept them, and a good sort of Englishman, who formed our fourth, laughing the whole time. Lord A. Hill told me they inquired of him who I was, and he said, a Mr. Johnson. At last, after we changed horses at Hounslow, I gave the girl my card, and declared myself to be the veritable Captain Rock. The girl exclaimed aloud, and the old fellow, in spite of his Orangeism, taking me cordially by the hand, said he was most rejoiced to meet me, and that he had actually, for the two or three last hours, suspected who I was. He then got very adroitly over the difference in our opinions, by saying, "You, sir, take the poetical view of these matters." Proved to be Sir Henry Osborne, once high sheriff of the county of Waterford, and a member of the Irish Parliament; parted great friends. Found, at Albemarle Street, a note from Lord Lansdowne, asking me to dinner to-morrow. Went to the Athenæum, and dined. Weather dreadfully cold.

22nd. Breakfasted at the Athenæum. Called on Burgess to make another effort to get the letter he promised me on the subject of the Prince's gift to Sheridan. Told me it was now in the possession of a gentleman high in the confidence of the King, but that he would write to him for it. Said I would delay going to press in the hope of getting it. Saw the picture by Sir Joshua of Mrs. Reynolds which he has, and which Lord L. wished to purchase of him: said that the sum Lord L. offered for it was a mere nothing; that he has been advised to ask 1000 guineas, but will take 800. Called upon Power, and went from thence to Longman's. Conversation on my agreement with Murray, which I told them I was resolved now to bring to a definite settlement, or else break it off entirely. Met Luttrell and walked with him some time. Mentioned what Grattan said of Provost Hutchinson, that he was always asking for something or another; "little things to be sure, but still they were things." Told me what I had already heard from Byng, of his having submitted his forthcoming poem (Crockford House) to Lord Sefton, Henry de Roos, and P. Greville, to see whether there was any thing wrong (*i. e.* unworthy of a man of the town) in publishing such an attack upon the highpriest of the gaming-table; a deference

to society for which society will but little thank him. What is called *the world* knows its own worthlessness too well to respect him who fears it. Dined at Lord Lansdowne's: company, Abercromby, Baring and son, Brownlow, two Smiths, and Fazakerley. Abercromby praising Jones's book, expressed great admiration of Curran's public character, and wished not to hear any thing of his private blemishes. Talked of Erskine's speech in defence of Peter Pindar for a libel against Lord Lonsdale, in which he had compared Lord Lonsdale to the devil. Erskine dwelt on the grandeur of the devil as described by Milton, and insisted that it was rather he that should be displeased at being compared to Lord Lonsdale. The devil (Lord Lansdowne said) was always a favourite theme with Erskine, and he had once heard him say that he looked upon him as "great celestial statesman out of place!"

23rd. Breakfasted with Rogers. Talked of my business with Murray; said that Murray had told him a day or two since, that he was quite ready for me. I again mentioned (what I had before said to him in my letter) the intention I had, if possible, to discharge the debt to Longmans from my own resources, so as to render myself more independent in my negotiations with Murray. Expressed himself ready to assist me in any way I desired. Lord John Russell came in after breakfast. R. charged him with coming because he knew I was there: this not the case. Told Lord John of my intention to dedicate my Egyptian story to him; expressed himself much pleased. R. mentioned Lord Erskine saying of some man who died immensely rich, "A fine sum to begin the other world with." Fuseli one cold day, in standing at the fire at Rogers's, said, with his peculiar accent, "Hell fire, kept within proper bounds, is no bad thing." Went with Rogers and his brother to the Institution, and from thence to Power's. * * *

24th. Breakfasted at the Athenæum. Called upon Luttrell: his story of Lord Norbury,—when the Catholic Petition was rejected in the Irish Parliament in '92 or '3, Burke's son and one or two others who were behind the Speaker's chair, immediately on the decision being pronounced, withdrew; upon which Toler rose and said, "He had but one remark to make. What had just happened reminded him of a cross-reading he had lately met with

'Yesterday a petition was presented which luckily missed fire, and the villains made off.'" Called upon Lord Caernarvon and sat some time with him; asked me to dine on Wednesday, but engaged. Called upon Lady Cawdor; sang for her my glee, "Hip, hip, hurrah!" From thence to Lady Cowper, with whom I had a good deal of conversation about Lady Byron: said she would again look over Lord B.'s letters to Lady Melbourne, to see if there be any thing in them that would suit my purpose. Dined early with Rogers, and went to the pit of the Opera to hear Fanny Ayton in the "Gazza Ladra:" rather liked her. Called upon Sir J. Malcolm this morning: his story of an old Scotch officer making excuses for not singing, "D'ye think, if I kenn'd the words of any song in the world, I should be such a damned fool as to be particular about the *cod-dence*?"

25th. Breakfasted at the Athenæum. Called at Barnes's but did not find him. Walked about with Luttrell. Called at Mrs. T. Hope's and met there Lord Cowper. A good deal of talk about politics. Luttrell full of praise of my verses in the "Times," but alarming me by saying with what *certainly* people set them down as mine: "Is there any thing of Moore's in the 'Times' to-day?" Pointed out Marquis de Salvo to him in the street, and mentioned his once having asked me "to allow him three hours' conversation with me some morning." "He is certainly not *salvo pudore*," said Luttrell. Called on Lord Auckland, who reminded me of my engagement to meet Lady Frances Leveson, and mentioned Friday next, if she should be disengaged. A note from Lady Holland to ask me to come to hear her to-night. Dined at Calvert's. Went to the Hollands' in the evening; my Lady very gracious; asked me to come and dine on Tuesday, and go to hear "Artaxerxes." * * * Brougham, who was at Lord H.'s, told me that in a letter he had just received from America (from Casey, of Liverpool), he was requested to communicate to me, as illustrative of the natural love of all animals for liberty, a circumstance which had just come within the writer's knowledge. Some young birds in a cage were from time to time visited by the old ones, their parents, from the thicket, who, it was observed, had endeavoured by every possible effort to widen the bars of the cage, so as to let the young

ones out. At last, after various attempts, not being able to effect their object, they brought some poisonous berries, which they placed within the cage, and which the prisoners immediately eat of and died. A strange story to send all the way from America. Read to-day in the "Examiner" a curious extract relative to myself, from some late writer on phrenology. The author of the article in the "Westminster Review" on my life of Sheridan, has it seems taken the trouble of calculating that there are 2500 similes in that work, on which the phrenologist remarks that this is all the consequence of my possessing such a large organ of comparison; so large indeed, according to him, that it may be seen at many yards distance! What exquisite fooling, both in critic and phrenologist!

26th. Breakfasted with Rogers, for the purpose of arranging with him what he was to do with Murray; Luttrell at breakfast too. Agreed that they should both go to Murray's and come to me at Albemarle Street, to tell me the result. Called in the meantime at Burgess's about the letter on Sheridan's business, but did not see him. On my return to Albemarle Street, I found Davidson the printer, who had come to me at Murray's request, to show me the sheets of Luttrell's poem, and to request me to prevail upon him not to publish it. Rogers, by the bye, had already told me that Murray had applied to him for the same purpose, saying that Lockhart had read it, and thought that, though elegant, it would not be creditable to L. to have it published. To this criticism Davison now added that his "*Reader*" thought it the damndest stuff in the world." Expressed my surprise at all this, saying, that though I had not read that part about Crockford, I could not conceive Luttrell writing any thing that was not clever and creditable. Left the sheets with me, and I promised to look over them. Before I had read more than eighteen or twenty pages, R. came; the result of his negotiation with Murray as follows:—"By the advice of friends (again!) Murray has come to the resolution of not publishing the 'Byron Papers' in his possession *at all*, neither those of his own, nor those the family has given him. The opinion both of Mr Canning and Mr. Gifford, who looked over them, was, that being addressed confidentially to Murray, they could not be published by him, and it

was his intention therefore to leave them as a legacy to his children. For a 'Life,' however, written by me, on my own materials, and forming a quarto volume that 'would be considered cheap at two guineas,' he proposed by a written paper to give me the sum of 2,500*l.*, to be paid on the day of publication by bills at six, eight, twelve, and eighteen months." The opinion of Canning and Gifford, upon which he affects to found this resolution, having been, when we last talked upon the subject, made a reason for publishing the "Papers" separately and by wholesale, as conveniently as it is now made a reason for not publishing them at all! Decided at once to have nothing more to do with him. My only plea or motive for leaving the Longmans for him having been the power it gave me of combining the materials of all parties, and this object being now frustrated by the resolution he has taken, I naturally, and of course, resort to them as my publishers. Rogers appeared to be of opinion that I ought to accept of Murray's offer, and when I assured him that, even in a pecuniary point of view, I should be, if any thing, worse off by this arrangement than by continuing with the Longmans, he suggested that I should endeavour to make Murray give me 3000*l.* My mind, however, was made up to what I saw was my true and only line of conduct, in every point of view; and we proceeded immediately to Murray's for the purpose of acquainting him with my resolution. Retired with Murray into his backroom, and told him my decision; added that I could not blame him for the determination he had come to, with respect to the papers, but that I felt I had a right to complain of the suspense in which he had kept me, and for the disturbance he had produced in all my plans by his very uncertain conduct. He owned it was wrong, but that he had been unable to make up his mind. In the course of our conversation I said, "Well, I don't see how I shall be able to make out a 'Life,' and I think you had better take *any* materials off my hands, and let them go to your children with your *own*." At this hint he seemed eagerly to jump, and said he should be very happy to enter into such an arrangement with me, but I answered (what was true) that I had spoken without thought, and that, as to parting with a paper of Lord Byron's (except to put it in the fire) there was nothing more remote from my thoughts. He then ask-

ed me about Luttrell's sheets, and I told him that on the score of *talents*, he need have no doubt whatever of the work, for, as far as I had read, it was, like every thing Luttrell ever did, full of polish and point. This seemed to satisfy him completely and he said he would instantly proceed with the printing. Wrote to the Longmans to tell them the result of the negotiation. Luttrell this morning mentioned a good pun of Jekyll's. Being asked why he no longer spoke to a lawyer of the name of Peat, Jekyll said, "I choose to give up his acquaintance; I have common of Turbary, and have a right to *cut Peat*." Rogers told some anecdotes of the Duke of Wellington; of his saying to him (Rogers), speaking of Waterloo, "It was a battle of giants." His mentioning the effect that the intelligence of Buonaparte's escape from Elba had at Vienna. When told to all the personages there assembled in congress, they burst out a laughing. The Duke sent off a dispatch to the Emperor of Austria with the news, and the person who was the bearer of it said afterwards, "What could there have possibly been in that dispatch; for the moment the Emperor read it, he burst out a laughing." R. mentioned that, after the affair of Cintra, the Duke of Wellington said to Sir J. Moore, "There is now only you and I left, and if you are appointed chief, I will serve under you." Dined at Lord Harrington's, having called upon him on Saturday last, when he asked me: company, Duke and Duchess of Leinster, Lord Cathcart, Lincoln, Stanhope, &c. Very kind, good-natured people, and brought old times to my mind, as this was one of the first houses where I was well received in my boyish days. My cold very heavy in the evening. Went to the Athenæum. Saw Chantrey, and had a good deal of conversation with him. Asked me when I meant to sit for my bust: told him I thought he had given up all thoughts of it. "Not at all," he said; "I am only waiting for some wrinkles to come in your face." "Here they are, then," I said, "in plenty." Voted also for Lord Gosford's son, young Acheson: got home early. Forgot to mention that I called on Croker yesterday, and sat sometime with him. Mentioned that he had already received six volumes, printed, of Scott's "Napoleon." It must therefore, as he said, been, most of it, done at the time Scott affected to go for the purpose of research

to Paris. Gallois, indeed, says (as Lord John told me) that Scott did not seem to wish for any new lights on the subject, and, according to Croker's account, some anecdotes which he himself communicated to Scott seemed rather to annoy him than otherwise.

27th. Dreadfully wet day; expecting all the morning to receive a put-off from Lady Holland for the evening. On coming in to dress, found a note from her, saying she was too ill with cold to go to the play, but would be very happy to see me at seven to dinner; that I should not find them brilliant, as they would be "alone." Was glad to avail myself of this opening for freedom, so answered that, presuming upon being at the theatre this evening, I had fixed to meet Price the American manager at half-past seven, and therefore should not be able to dine with her. Put on my goloshes and paddled off to the Bedford Coffee House, where I dined, and went from thence to Drury Lane, behind the scenes. Some talk with Kean, who was playing Sir Giles Overreach. Asked Wallack the stage-manager to put me into a private box to see the pantomime, which he did. Home early.

28th. Breakfasted at Stevens's and called on Lord John, whom I found at home. Told me that, while at Geneva, he employed himself in translating the "Iliad" into the Spenser stanza, I believe.* Had dined with Lady Holland the day before, which she took care, with her usual *tactique*, not to tell me. People that wish to meet will never receive any help towards it through her. An excellent person in her way, however, and I should be ungrateful not to record it: full of good parts as well as of *sharp* ones. Walked with Lord John on his way to the House of Commons. Called upon Newton: his picture from "Gil Blas" for the Duke of Bedford nearly finished: remarked on the foreshortening of the elbow of the Prince as not correct. Went from him to Jones, the painter; made me a present of a drawing of his from my poem of the "Lake of the Dismal Swamp." Between five and

six went with Luttrell (whom I got asked) to dinner at Longman's. Company: Barnes, Jordan, Britton, Dickinson, &c. &c. Some talk with Longman and Rees before dinner on the result of my late negotiation with Murray. Longman much pleased with my promptitude in breaking off and returning to them, when the sole condition on which I left them was frustrated: said that it was the very way in which he could have sworn I would behave. No time to be lost in bringing out the work. Offered me, if I pleased, the same terms as Murray, but I preferred taking my chance as we are. L. and I walked home together.

March 1st. Breakfasted with Luttrell. Had a note from Lord Lansdowne to say that Lady L. was well enough to see me to-day; called upon her; sorry to find her looking very languid. Met Frankland Lewis going down to the House, and begged him to send my card to the Speaker for permission to go under the gallery this evening to hear Canning on the Corn Laws. Lunched at the Athenæum, and went to the House of Commons: overtook George Fortesque and walked with him. Met Phillips the barrister, who pointed out Cobbett to us: the first time I ever saw him. Found my permission from the Speaker with the door-keeper: was barely in time to get sitting room, the place being full of peers. Got between Lord Morley and Lord Clanricarde. After Canning's speech went to the Athenæum and dined at nine o'clock.

2nd. Lord John sent to know would I breakfast with him: went; a good deal of talk about Unitarianism. Dined at Lord Auckland's; company, Lord and Lady Francis Leveson and a Col. —. Like Lord Francis and like her too. In the evening was made to sing in spite of my cold, and they seemed to enjoy it. Lady F. sang a song of Mrs. R. Arkwright's very prettily. Went from thence to Lady Jersey's; only a few there, the Duke of Devonshire, the Ellises, Brougham, &c. Went from thence to Lady Cowper's *ecarté* party: abominate to see nice women giving themselves up so eagerly to card-playing. A good deal of talk with Lord Cowper. On my return home met Rogers at the corner of Albemarle Street, coming from Lady Jersey's, and walked up and down St. James's Street with him for some time. Home about one. Received this morning a note from Lady Hol-

* There is an inaccuracy here. What I attempted was to translate a single book of the "Odyssey" in the *ottava rima* of Ariosto and Tasso. My reason for the attempt was, that it has always struck me that the "Odyssey" resembles rather the narrative poems of Italy, full of marvels and magic, than the sober dignity of the "Iliad" and "Æneid." The late Lord Northampton published some of my stanzas in a collection called "The Tribute,"—J. R.

land, saying she was sorry that I could not dine with her to-day, but reminding me that I had promised, in that case, to give her Sunday next instead: have engaged myself, however, to Lord Lansdowne for that day.

3rd. Walking about with Luttrell. Called at the Agar Ellises; found them at luncheon, and joined. Saw Bessy's mother at Power's. Dinner at Rogers's: company, Luttrell, Barnes, Lord Cawdor, Lord John, and Adair. Talked of diaries; Wyndham's very curious. * * *

4th. Breakfasted at Athenæum. Called upon Barnes as I had promised. Told me that Galignani has made a volume of the verses that have appeared in the "Times," publishing them all as mine; among the rest, a long straggling thing about Marathon (*not* the "Ghost of Miltiades"), as little like me or mine as possible. This is too bad. Mentioned that the King the other day conveyed a message to them (the "Times") through Knighton, I think, saying that he always read the paper with great pleasure, &c. &c., but that he hoped they would refrain from giving any more details about his private life and habits. Said he wished much to become a member of the Athenæum: had heard that any one proposed by Lord Lansdowne would be sure to succeed, and asked whether I would have any objection to request Lord L. to propose him. Answered that I had no doubt, from Lord L.'s great good-nature, he would without hesitation comply with the request; but that I thought, situated as both he and Barnes were, such a public junction of their names would not be quite desirable for either. After a few more remarks (B. saying that it was not as editor of the "Times" that Lord L. might be supposed to set him up, but as Master of Arts of Cambridge and member of the Temple) the subject dropped. Gave him for insertion the verses I wrote to Corry about the Strainer two years since: put a note upon Ewart's name, "a vender of capital old port, Swallow Street." Dined at Lord Lansdowne's: company, Lord Gwydir, Lord Minto, Lord Auckland, Lord Maitland, Vernon, Brownlow, Stuart, Montron, &c. &c. Home to pack for the morning.

5th. Set off between seven and eight. A very chatty lady my only companion, but there being nothing very attractive about her, preferred my French newspapers, fifteen of which

I read through, the lady seeming most heartily to hate the sight of their coming, so endlessly, out of my pocket.

6th to 31st. During this whole month have not had time to *diarize*, so must record, by wholesale, what I remember. My time wholly taken up in transcribing the remainder of my "Epicurean" for the press, and correcting the proofs of what I gave the printers while in town, the whole concluding part of the book being still unwritten. Had a letter from Barnes soon after my return, repeating still more urgently his wish with respect to Lord Lansdowne's proposal of him at the Athenæum: has evidently set his heart upon it, but the thing cannot be.—13th. Went with Bowles to Bath to see Anastasia; found the dear child looking very well, though she had that morning suffered a little operation, the spot on her leg having opened yesterday, and the surgeon having found it necessary to enlarge the orifice with his lancet. Dined that day with Bowles at the White Hart, and called on Mr. Tudor, the surgeon, in the evening, but did not see him. Joined Bowles afterwards at a concert at Winsor's, and was much delighted with the music; never heard that delicious composition, "In sweetest Harmony," to greater advantage. Slept at the White Hart. Saw the surgeon next morning, and had the satisfaction to find that he thought the leg was likely to do well. Returned home with Bowles. Before I answered Barnes, thought it due both to him and to Lord L. to try the chance of the latter's seeing the matter in a different point of view from what I did; and, therefore, wrote to Lord L. to tell him how the case stood, and to say that, if he saw the same objection to such a step as I did, I would take the whole responsibility of the refusal on myself, and write just such a letter to Barnes as I would have done if Lord L. had known nothing of the matter.—25th. Received an answer from Lord L., agreeing with me that such an *affiche* of their names was a thing not very desirable, he thought, to either party; but adding, that if Barnes was proposed by any one else, he would be most happy to annex his signature among the recommenders of the proposal. Wrote accordingly to Barnes, repeating the reasons I had given him in town for not making the request of Lord L. Sent to the "Times" some verses, "I have found out a Gift for my

Erin." Received a letter from Lady Jersey, asking me for a copy of "The Slave," in my own handwriting. Answered her that I had merely seen these verses in the paper like other people, and as I always sent my papers to my mother, had no means of giving a copy. Corrected the songs of the 6th Number of "National Melodies" for Power, and sent them up according as I did them.

April 1. to 30. Must dispatch this month in the same way. Still busy at my "Epicurean." Received a letter from Barnes, telling me, in confidence, that the verses in the "Times" of yesterday ("Soliloquy of a pure and virtuous Statesman," a violent attack on Peel) were from the pen of —. Rather annoyed at this, fearing that, written as they are in imitation of me, they might be taken for mine. Wrote to Croker, saying that, if he had an opportunity, I wish he would (without making too much of the matter) tell Peel that the verses were not mine; that though I by no means affected any good will to his public character, thinking him the greatest enemy, because the most respectable, that Ireland had, I yet respected him too much to make this sort of attack upon him. On the 5th received an answer from Croker, saying he had made the communication I wished to Peel, and enclosing me Peel's letter in reply, which was as follows:—"Dear Croker, I believe I saw the verses in the 'Times' to which Moore has alluded, but I cannot say that they gave me much uneasiness. I never thought enough about them to guess at the author. They now certainly have caused me more pleasure than pain, since they have induced Moore, from a generous spirit quite consistent with hostility to me as a public man, to disclaim an attack which would have pained me, if it had been an evidence of his personal enmity and ill-will. I am, from long exposure, tolerably callous to abuse, but not to that abuse which would make me despair of improving my acquaintance with Moore. Very truly yours." There is here all the manliness and tact for which Peel is so distinguished. Forgot to mention that these verses contained also a violent attack on Croker, which (as I said in my letter) would be to him a sufficient proof that they were not mine. In his answer he said, that not only that circumstance, but the inferiority of their talent, would have convinced him of it. A letter from Lady Jer-

sey to say she had certainly thought the verses to be mine, and "what other living poet could have written them?" Sent to the "Times" verses on the "Umbrella Question." Received a letter from Æneas McDonnell, entreating me to write something about the "New Reformation;" answered, I would as soon as I could. Sent up, in about a week after, "Woe, woe!"—14th. Went to the Houlton's, John having brought the gig for me. Elwyn and Shirley at dinner. Spoke of Lisse (I think), some foreign poet or musician, who got great celebrity by a song called "Portrait Charmant;" and, one day, Houlton being in a coffee-room with him, a little squat Dutch-looking woman came in, leaning on the arm of a man, on which Lisse jogged H.'s elbow, and whispered "Portrait charmant;" this woman being the person he had, many years before, written the song upon.—Next day, 15th, walked into Bath alone to see my dear Anastasia; found her better than I expected; sat with her a great part of the day. News of the resignation of the Tory Ministry arrived; much consternation, in consequence, among the Bath parsons. Saw Dr. Crawford, who said Anastasia was going on very well. Returned with Elwyn to dinner at Houlton's; my time here always agreeable; the melancholy tones of E.'s voice (which resemble much those of Malanotte, a woman I heard at Venice) brought the tears into my eyes last night, and the "Calascero" of J. on the guitar made me feel as usual.—16th. Returned home, Houlton's gig bringing me as far as Melksham, from whence I walked home. Negotiations going on some days between Lord Lansdowne and Canning.—20th. Lord and Lady L. arrived at Bowood.—22nd. Walked over to Bowood; met the Duke of Devonshire in the hall; was shown to Lord L.'s room. "You find me," he said, "in the greatest worry and perplexity possible." He then proceeded to tell me the state of the negotiation when he left town; the great difficulty, the government of Ireland, which the King insists must be exclusively anti-Catholic, as a set-off to the preponderance of Catholicism in the cabinet. In this state of things Lord L.'s wish is to support Canning's government, without joining it; but, of course, his direct co-operation is what Canning wants. Had left town to escape from the conflicting counsels and opinions with which he was beset, having de-

clined taking office without some modification of the proposed government for Ireland. To his surprise saw the Duke of Devonshire at his bedside this morning, who had come for the double purpose of consulting him as to his own line of conduct; and, at Canning's request, of reopening the negotiation with Lord Lansdowne. The Duke very eager for the junction. "What an appearance it would have," said Lord L., "if, in a few weeks after my taking office, the first fruits of my accession would prove to be the appointment of an anti-Catholic government for Ireland." Agreed with him that this would never do, and that he ought to insist upon, at least, a Catholic secretary. Said he would make up his mind to this as a *sine quâ non*. Seemed by no means, however, to like the idea of joining at all, from the sacrifice of character which, he feared, might ultimately result from it; and said, two or three times, "Do you really then think that, if I were to take office (upon the condition of this concession respecting Ireland), and should, in a few months, see reason to retire again, I should not come out damaged?" Told him, that (acting as I knew he always *would*) the damage would be to those he left, not to himself. After a good deal of conversation I left him, and joined the Duke and Lady L. in the library. The Duke said, "Did you ever expect to see such changes as have just happened? One can hardly believe it." I said I hoped he would not let Lord L. decide against the junction too hastily. "I think he will hardly get me out of this house," he replied, "without a favourable answer." Lunched. Asked their opinion about a name for my heroine, and wrote out a list for them to choose from. Alethe, the one I had fixed on, but it does not look so well in print. *Theora* seemed the only one they both liked; Lady L., too, liked *Clea*. Told Lord L. I should come again on Tuesday.—24th. Went to Bowood: the Duke had started off at five o'clock on the 22nd. A letter from him this morning; had seen Canning, but nothing could be known till the latter had seen the King. After luncheon walked out with Lord L. Said he had received a letter that morning from a person I should little suspect as offering his counsel on such a subject; "one," he added, "more likely to counsel you than me." This was from Rogers, who is at present at Dropmore, and writes to say that,

thinking it might be satisfactory to Lord L. to know the opinions of Lord Grenville on the subject of the negotiation, and those opinions being decidedly for the junction, he hastens to communicate them. Said I should come again to-morrow. "If you find me gone," said Lord L., "you may conclude all is settled."—25th. Went to Bowood at half-past one; Lord L. gone about half an hour, in consequence of the arrival of a King's messenger. Had left a note for me, to say that lest, from his departure, I might suppose all to be settled, he thought it right not to leave me under this impression; on the contrary, he had received a decided, though elaborately softened down, refusal to his proposal; but, as his friends thought he ought to be in town during the present situation of affairs, he had consented to go up. Bid me, if I should see William Lamb announced as the future secretary for Ireland, not to conclude any thing favourable from that circumstance, as the appointment would be only temporary.

May 1st to 31st. The whole of this month busily employed in seeing my "Epicurean" through the press, and finishing the last chapters: at it from morning to night. Had Anastasia home, and consulted Brabant about her, who alarmed me not a little by his opinion of her general health.

June 1st to 6th. Bessy's sister in Edinburgh very ill; a letter from Mrs. Siddons giving but little hope of her life: this letter succeeded by others of a more encouraging tendency: endeavoured, however, to prevent Bessy from being too sanguine in her expectations. Received a note from Corry, who is in London, and means to stay a week more.

7th. Having finished all but the correction of the last chapter and the notes, started for town. A good deal of conversation on the way. Proceeded in the coach to Ludgate Hill, having fixed to pass a few days with the Longmans, for the better dispatch of what remains of my printing. One of my fellow passengers, a lady, who went on with me, expressed her delight at having been "lucky enough to pass so many hours in my company;" and introduced me to a young man who was in the inn-yard to meet her. Found a servant of the Longmans waiting for me, and a nice dinner ready on my arrival: nothing could be more kind or hospitable. Walked out with Rees.

Went to Power's about a coat I had ordered, having none fit to appear in : found it dreadful, and went to Nugee's, the tailor, who engaged to make me another immediately.

8th. Waked at five o'clock by the dreadful noise of the workmen in pulling down some houses opposite. Nugee called with the first *sketch* of my coat to try it on : said he would dress me better than ever I was dressed in my life : "There's not much of you, sir," he said, "and therefore my object must be to make the most I can of you." Quite a jewel of a man this Nugee : have gone to him in consequence of my former tailor being bankrupt. Worked all day at my notes, and did not stir out till after dinner. Went to the Athenæum ; looked at lodgings, and fixed to go to 19, Bury Street. The Longmans anxious that I should stay with them, but finding that Rees had given up his own room to me, felt I should be more comfortable by changing my quarters.

9th. At work all the morning in reading various books of travels, &c. for my notes : added but little to the authorities I already had, which are far more multifarious than they need be. Left Paternoster Row late, and got to my lodgings time enough to dress for dinner at Lord Lansdowne's, who wrote down to me a few days ago to ask me for to-day and for Thursday next : company, the Lievens, Jerseys, Cowpers, Vernons, Wm. Russells, Duke of Devonshire, &c. : sat next to Lieven. Found a note at home from Barnes, asking me to dine with him to-morrow.

10th. Held communication early with Corry, who is my next door neighbour. After having worked some hours at my proofs, &c., walked out with Corry. Paid visits : among others called upon Lord Harrington, who asked me to dine with him. Not having yet answered Barnes, was half inclined to do so : tossed up a shilling in Corry's room to decide ; "heads for Barnes ;" it came heads, and off I set to Nelson Square, having tried to prevail on Corry to accompany me. On mentioning this to Barnes, we dispatched a note off to C. asking him to join us after dinner, which he did. * *

11th. At work all the morning. Dined with the Fieldings.

12th. A letter from Bessy's mother about poor Anne, who appears, by the last accounts, to be all but dead. Dined at the Athenæum alone, and went to see Pasta in "Marie Stu-

art ;" much affected by it : went to the Fieldings' box afterwards, and found both the girls' eyes red with weeping. Great anxiety about the result of the struggle to-night between the Ministers and Opposition, on the Duke of Wellington's amendment. The intelligence brought to the Fieldings' box by Talbot, who had just heard it from Col. French : "We have beaten the Jacobins," exclaimed the wise colonel. Went from thence to Lady Lansdowne, who had a box for the children to-night ; found there Lord Lansdowne, who looked fagged and worried. * * *

13th. A letter from Bessy expressing her intention to go to Edinburgh to her sister, in case Brabant thinks it right for Anastasia to travel. Dined with Lady Donegal, or rather with Mary and Barbara, poor Lady D. not being well enough to see me yet. Drove a little in the park afterwards, and they then set me down at the theatre, where I saw the "Hundred Pound Note" and "Peter Wilkins ;" much pleased with both : Corry in the next box to me ; joined and went, of course, to sup afterwards : this finishing of the night always necessary to him as it used to be to me, but it now disagrees with me much. Told me a good deal about Plunket, of his amiableness and even playfulness when one comes to know him, notwithstanding that repulsive look and manner of his. Described a merry day with him and the Chief Justice (Bushe) at the Pigeon House : their endeavours to out-pun each other, "Well, that's as bad as his, isn't it ?" "No, no ; mine was the worst, I appeal to all round." Con Lyne was one of the party, and, on his undertaking to recite something, Plunket said, "Come, come, Lyne, stand up while you do it ; stand up, man, and nobody at least can say that you are *Con-seated* (conceited)." Mentioned Plunket's joke on some one saying, "Well, you see —'s predictions have come true." "Indeed !" said Plunket, "I always knew he was a *bore*, but I didn't know he was an *augur*."

14th. At work most of the morning. Dined at Lord Lansdowne's : Corry and I went together : company, Mr. and Mrs. Barton, Miss Ricardo, Orde, Mackintosh, Newton, &c. Supper afterwards at Stevens's. Corry told me of his first interview with Lord Lansdowne on his arrival ; Lord L. asked him, among a variety of other questions, how my "Life of

Sheridan" was liked in Ireland. Corry told him that Bushe and Plunket disapproved of the light in which I had represented Sheridan; I had sacrificed (they thought) my hero! Lord L. very truly replied, that I might more fairly be accused of the opposite fault, that of glossing him over too much. Did not get to bed till near two, which is hard work, having to be up, with all my wits about me, so early.

15th. Waked at a little before eight; worked at my notes for seven hours, and then went to dinner at Longman's with Corry and the Knight of Kerry, the latter of whom I begged them to invite: company, Kenny, Dickinson, Barnes, &c. One or two pleasant stories from Kenny. Corry, the Knight, and I, came away together, and after walking down to the House of Commons, turned into a coffee-house on our way back, and committed supper on lobster, salad, and brandy and water. * * *

16th. Not at all well after my double dose of eating and drinking yesterday, but obliged to rise early to work. Did not continue long at it, but treated myself to a walk, which did me good. Went to dine at Longman's, at Hampstead; took a hackney coach, which was to cost me 15s. for a day. A large party: Mr. and Mrs. Carr and daughter, Dr. Thomson, Miss Bentham, the Spottiswoodes, &c. Singing in the evening; Miss Carr, Miss Longman, and myself. Left at a quarter past eleven, and, having refreshed myself by a little change of toilette, got to the Duke of Devonshire's supper about twenty minutes past twelve. All the great world there, and every one full of kindness to me. Sat at supper between Lady Carlisle and Lady Clanricarde; a good deal of talk with the former about the new changes in the Ministry. Forgot my eye-glass at home; but Lady Cawdor lent me hers, charging me to take care of it, as it was a wedding present.

17th. Was to have dined (Corry and I) with Benett to-day; but my old friend Lady Bective having invited us also, preferred it. See the Benetts almost every day, as he receives my letters under his cover from Bessy, and I call there for them. The girls very pretty and lively; want me to take up my abode there, but distracted as I am even in my secluded back room in Bury Street, what should I be among them? Set off for Regent's Park with Corry towards seven; some difficulty in find-

ing the Bectives' house. No one but ourselves and them. Sang with Lady Bective and her daughter in the evening some of the same songs she and I sung together before that daughter existed, I believe!

18th. Received last night a revise of my last sheet, and see many things to re-write in the death-scene. Notes pouring in on me, and visitors momentarily expected: found I could do nothing at home, and determined to fly off to Kensington Gardens with my sheets. Took a hackney-coach at Knightsbridge, and in a few minutes found myself in those quiet gardens, out of the reach of all intruders. Sauntered about and sat alternately, conning over my pages, and touching the style and thoughts into shape, and, after being employed there about three hours, returned with the death-scene much improved in its present form. Dispatched it to the printer. Dined (Corry and I) at Stirling's, one of the proprietors of, and writers for, the "Times;" rather an artificial and affected man, but (as I understand from Corry) full of good feeling and kindness. Found among the guests one of my pretty shuttlecock friends (the sister of Mr. Henry Napier), who is married to Captain Light; sat next her at dinner. Some talk with Stirling about Barnes, who, he says, is the "best good man, with the worst-natured tongue." Never heard him speak of any one otherwise than depreciatingly, but the next moment, after abusing a man, he would go any length to serve him. The day by no means agreeable; was off to Lady Lansdowne's; found the gallery lighted up, and Pasta and Toso singing. Sorry to see Lord L. looking thoughtful and worried. Had received a card from him to dine on Monday next, but cannot, being engaged to Spottiswoode's: said he was very sorry, as he wished me to meet Lord Grey. Lady L. not well, and unhappy about an old family nurse, who was seized with apoplexy in the morning; neither host nor hostess, indeed, wore a *visage de fête*, which I grieved to see, for my hearth warms to both. Lord Auckland asked me for next Thursday, but I am engaged; begged me to call and fix a day with his sisters. Not home till near two.

19th. Up at eight, and from that hour till five o'clock never stirred from my writing-table, being employed in collecting my references for the notes, and putting them into

shape. This part of my task done too hurriedly, as I shall not be able to compress one-tenth of my materials into proper form, and must therefore omit them. Between five and six shaved and dressed, and went to dine at the Athenæum; from thence to the opera, where I promised Sir F. Burdett last night I would join his daughter in her box. Pasta in "Semiramide," very fine. Power had eased my mind on the subject of my bill on him for 120*l*. which is just falling due, and which I was to take up. He will pay it himself, and I shall refund the sum when my book is launched.

20th. Sent my last copy to the printer. Walked about with Corry, who is off to-morrow: introduced him to the Benett girls, whom he thought very pretty and agreeable. Saw Lady D. for the first time: obliged to be carried down to the drawing-room; a good deal altered in every thing but cordiality and goodness; all raptures as usual about my little Tom. Drove out with Barbara and her aunt; got my ticket for Almack's. Dined at Lord Cowper's: company, Brougham, Creevey, William Lamb, &c. &c. Creevey very amusing, drawing out Broofam (as he calls him) on his late speech at Liverpool; reminding him of their former time there, when Brougham, he said, was pelted "with precious stones (a man having flung a ring into their carriage) and he with real ones." Mentioned Brougham having exhausted every topic in his speeches, leaving him (Creevey) nothing to say; and on Creevey remonstrating with him, B. said, "Oh, well, I shall behave better to-morrow." Accordingly, on the morrow, he took particular pains not to leave a single topic connected with the subject untouched, and having fairly picked it to the bone, concluded by saying, "but I ought to apologise for having so long occupied your attention, and the more so as Mr. Creevey, who is to address you after me, has a great deal of new and interesting matter to submit to you." Went afterwards to Almack's, and was much amused; the prettiest person among those new to me, Lady Alice Peel. Was asked to-day to Lord Leveson Gower's.

21st. Went to Kentish Town to breakfast with Mrs. S. Mrs. S. disposed to give me every assistance in my "Life of Byron;" promised to write out her recollections of the Memoirs, which she had read (at least the first part) before he gave them to me; fixed to

meet her next Monday at the Exhibition. Walked into town with Kenny, calling in my way at Heath's (the engraver), who has sent me several messages and letters, requesting an interview with me. His object is to get me to become editor of an annual volume he has undertaken, in the manner of the "Forget-me-not," but on a more splendid scale; proposes to give me £500 a-year, my editorship to commence with the second number, as the present editor is Mr. Ainsworth (I think), the son-in-law of Ebers. Showed me some of the sheets and plates of the first number. Told him that I must take some time to consider of it, and should mention the proposal only to one person. Have no serious idea, however, of accepting it; the £500 a-year would, of course, be welcome, but there are other considerations to be looked to, and the plan altogether is *not* eligible. Dined at Lord Caernarvon's, having been also asked to Lord King's. Company: the Jerseys, Rogers, Baring, the Duncannons, Puseys, &c. Seated the whole time of dinner (without knowing him) next Lord Porchester: at length Lord Jersey, who sat on the other side of me, telling me who he was, lost no time in making up leeway with by brother poet, whose modesty evidently prevented him from entering into conversation with me; a rare quality in a young lord, and imputable solely to his poetry. The dinner dreadfully long; and I felt it the more from my impatience to be off to the "Medea," which I had never seen. Left the table soon after the ladies (Lord Jersey promising to explain for me to Lord Caernarvon) and took coach for the Opera. First act just over; knew not where to find a seat (it being a benefit night) till at last, seeing on the plan that the Countess St. Antonio kept her box, flew thither, and found only the Countess, Miss Gent, and Uvedale Price. Never saw any thing so fine as Pasta's acting; the "miseri pargoletti" full of tenderness, and all the rest grand. Promised to meet Miss Gent (who is a first-rate singer and a very handsome person) at the Countess's on Tuesday next. Remained alone in the box to see the ballet, and then home. Called this morning on Agar Ellis, to ask him to join Rogers in proposing Barnes at the Athenæum, Rogers being of opinion that my name, as one of the proposers, would do Barnes more harm than good, by proclaiming him so decidedly as the "Times"

editor. Ellis fixed for me to meet him at Rogers's to-morrow.

22nd. Received the proofs of the "dedication," &c. Went to Rogers's: found Agar Ellis about to take R. and Uvedale Price to see Lord Londonderry's Correggios: promised to call on Agar Ellis after his return. Went to Lord John Russell; showed him the "dedication," and asked his opinion of it, whether there was any thing he would wish altered in it. &c.; said he liked it very much. Thence to Agar Ellis's; found that he and Rogers had been to the Athenæum, and written down Barnes; anxious that I should dine with him some day, and fixed the first I was disengaged for July 5th. Said he should get the Jerseys to meet me, and added, "Is there any one else you would like me to ask?" On my way from him to Power's, met Lord Lansdowne and Abercromby. Lord L. said, "I never see you now." "No," I answered, "I have *cut* you since you became minister." Went out to pay my first visit at Holland House; found Lord H. riding about the hayfield. Walked beside him for some time; full of mental activity as usual. Talked a good deal of the state of politics. * * * Said Lord Lansdowne was too mild and forbearing to the Opposition, and that he was himself meditating a *sortie* against them. Talked of Ireland, Lord Anglesey's intended appointment, &c. &c. Lady Holland, driving in her whiskey, joined us, and said to me, "At last welcome to these peaceful shades; I thought we were never to see you." Asked me to dine to-morrow; the very thing I wished, it being the only day I have open for a long time. Lord H. had already mentioned Wednesday next, which I was obliged to refuse. Sat for some time with them in one of the summer houses, Lady H. inquiring, with much kindness, about Bessy and the young ones. Dined at Lord Auckland's: company, young Villiers and one or two more. In the evening the Francis Levesons, Mr. de Roos, and a few others; sung a good deal.

23rd. Sent the last of my corrections to the printer; the book may be out next Saturday. Received a ticket from Miss Burdett for the "Medea" to-night; also from the Countess St. Antonio, and from Lady Davy, and from somebody else, but am bound fast to Holland House. At two went to Lady Donegal's to meet some friends of Barbara, who are anxious

to hear me sing; Mrs. Hall and her sister. Sung as well as I could, having tired myself with running about. The sister much affected by some of the songs and cried. The Benetts took me out to Holland House after a drive in the Park. Benett had in the morning told me, in confidence, of Lord C. Churchill having proposed for Ethell; the girls, too, let out a little of the same secret. Company at dinner, the Duke of Bedford, the Whitbreads, Lambton, &c. &c. Sat up till near two with Lord Holland, who took me to his room and read me over some researches of his upon the Dis-senters' Bill; also his translation of the 25th canto of Ariosto for Mr. Rose's book, which he had got printed for himself in full, with all the stanzas about Fiordesquina, which, of course, are to be omitted in publication. Had fixed with Lambton to dine out for me to-morrow.

24th. Talking of Gibbon after breakfast; whether one would have rather left such a history as that of Gibbon behind or that of Hume; more men to be found, I thought, to do the latter than the former; such a comprehensive subject, and so completely executed. Those verses on Gibbon which I have heard attributed to Mr. Fox, "Through all the religions of Europe he ran," &c., not his, Lord H. says. Another mistake about Mr. Fox, his admiration of Barrow; Lord H. doubts whether he ever read a line of Barrow. At one Lambton arrived; my Lady, however, having fixed to take me in her whiskey to see Charles's house, Lambton accompanied us. Came into town with Lambton in his cabriolet. What an odd state of politics. I saw Lady Holland yesterday touching Lambton on the knee to keep him from speaking against the Duke of Wellington before the Duke of Bedford; the two Dukes being now, in conjunction with Lord Grey, *opposers* of the Ministry, while Lord Tavistock, Lord John, and Lambton are *with* them. Very little hopes now of poor Anne's life. Dined at Lord Carlisle's: company, the Ponsonbys, the Wil-mot Hortons, C. Greville, Planta, Luttrell, &c.; the first time I have met W. Horton since the burning of the MS.; very courteous. Dinner not very bright; too many official jokes between Horton and Planta. After dinner some conversation with the former about Ireland, and found him agreeable and sensible.

25th. Have been sitting some days past to

Moore for a medallion. Went to Rogers; found there Lady Davy, Lord and Lady Ruthven, and Newton, who had been breakfasting with him. Told R. I had received a note from the Longmans to say that my book would come out (with Scott's "Napoleon") on Saturday: though it could be ready, I knew, on Wednesday. R. angry at this; every day, he said, now was precious, and I ought not to allow them to keep me back for that "great humbug, the "Napoleon." All urged me to hasten it, particularly Lady Ruthven. Went to the Exhibition to meet Mrs. Shelley; a good deal of talk about Lord B. and Shelley. Seems to have known Byron thoroughly, and always winds up her account of his bad traits with "but still he was very nice." From the Exhibition went with her to the Panorama of Geneva; pointed out to me the place where Lord B. lived. She and Shelley had a small house near him. At first they lived at Secheron, and she spoke of Byron's singing one of my Melodies, "When He who adores Thee," as he left them in his boat of an evening, and their standing at the wall at the bottom of their garden listening to his voice over the water. Said the three or four months she passed there were the happiest of her life. The story of Lord B.'s saying to Polidori that, though Shelley did not fight, *he* did, is true. Dined at Spottiswoode's, having been obliged to refuse Lord Lansdowne, and also a dinner at Byng's, where I was asked to meet Lord Tavistock. Dull enough at Spottiswoode's, except in the evening, when we had music. A brother of Jeremy Bentham's of the party; rather an odd, quaint person, who expressed himself much puzzled by the peculiar quality of my voice; asked had I any secret charm? &c. &c. Went to Lady Grey's assembly; left it with Luttrell, who proposed to me to go to Lady Cork's, but I was tired, and home.

26th. Went at two o'clock to the Countess St. Antonio; found her and Coccia at the piano-forte. The new tenor (Ravaglia, I think) came soon after, and sang several things of Coccia's. Told the Countess she must not expect me to sing this morning, as there were foreign professors by; not understanding the words, they never know what to make of my singing. "*Ah, que c'est drôle!*" as I overheard a Frenchman say, after I had been singing "Those Evening Bells." By degrees the

room filled; Lord and Lady Worcester, Lady Mansfield and her daughters, the Miss Gents, &c. The Gents sang two duets beautifully, one of them Vaccari's. The Lady Murrays also sang very well, and with much more feeling than the others. Lady Mansfield invited me to come to Caen Wood in a week or two. Left them singing at near five o'clock. Dined at Lord Jersey's: company, Lady E. Vernon, M. and Madame Eynard, George Fortescue, &c. Took Madame Eynard down to dinner; a very agreeable person. Received a letter from Rees this morning, in consequence of my having said yesterday at dinner that "I feared my little cock-boat (the "Epicurean") would be run down by the launch of the great war-ship (Napoleon) on Saturday," informing me, that as I appeared not to like coming out with Scott, they meant to put off the publication of the "Epicurean" till Saturday week. Wrote to remonstrate against this, and quoted what Rogers had said; got an answer back to say, I should be out on Friday.

27th. Dined at Baring's, having been also asked to Frankland Lewis's, and some other place. Company: Charles Fox and his wife, Lord Essex, Rogers, Brougham, &c. Francis Baring, whom I sat next, told me of his having met, during his travels in South America, some Mexican women who had learnt English for the express purpose of singing my Melodies. Corunna formerly called "the Groyne." Fox, in one of his speeches, calls it so. After dinner, in talking of Peter Cox the auctioneer, F. Baring said, "Didn't he write some poem about 'Human Life?'" (Rogers was sitting beside him.) There was a dead silence. "No," answered Brougham at last, putting his finger up to his nose with a look of grave malice; "no, it was not *Peter Cox* that was the author of 'Human Life.'" B.'s look and voice irresistible, and there was a burst of laughter over the table, in which Rogers himself joined.

28th. A note from Power to say that poor Anne is at last released from her suffering; a letter from Murray, too, with the same information. Wrote to Bessy as consolingly as I could on this subject; notwithstanding the long preparation, she will feel it deeply. Dined at Boddington's: company, the other Boddingtons, Mr. Crackenthorpe, &c. &c. Sat next Miss Boddington, who is pretty and amusing. Left them preparing to dance, and went to Lady

Cornwall's, where I heard some rather bad amateur music, with the exception of the Miss Gents. Much pressed to sing, but did not till most of the company had gone away.

29th. Taken by the two Benetts to Dulwich, where I have for some days been meditating a visit to Dr. Glennie, with whom Byron was at school. Glennie not at home, but we were shown into a good garden, where we amused ourselves among the strawberry beds. Saw young Glennie, who showed me the memorandums, as far as they are done, which his father is writing down for me relative to Byron. A good deal of laughing in our drive back. Dined at Ponsonby's: company, Lord and Lady Dunmore, Lord Dudley, Lord and Lady Ruthven, Rogers, and Miss Godfrey. Lord Dudley very silent; hardly opened his lips. Found a note on my return home from Lord Essex (who fixed to take me to Boyle Farm to-morrow), appointing the hour at which I am to be with him.

30th. Day rather threatening for the *fête*. Was with Lord Essex at two, and started about half an hour afterwards in his barouche and four. Nothing but carriages and four along the road to Boyle Farm, which Lady de Roos has lent for the occasion to Henry; the five givers of the *fête* being Lords Chesterfield, Castlereagh, and Alvanley, Henry de Roos, and Robert Grosvenor, subscribing four or five hundred pounds each towards it. But few come when we arrived; the arrangements very tasteful and beautiful. The pavilion for quadrilles on the bank of the river, with steps descending to the water, quite oriental, like what one sees in Daniel's pictures. Towards five the *élite* of the gay world was assembled, the women all looking their best, and scarce an ugly face among them. About half-past five sat down to dinner; four hundred and fifty under a tent on the lawn, and fifty to the royal table in the conservatory. The Tyrolese musicians sung during dinner, and after dinner there were gondolas on the river, with Caradori, De Begnis, Velluti, &c. singing barcarolles, and rowing off occasionally so as to let their voices die away and again return. After these succeeded a party in dominos: Madame Vestris, Fanny Ayton, &c., who rowed about in the same manner and sung "Oh come to me when daylight sets," &c. &c. The evening was most delicious, and as soon as it grew dark the groves were all lighted up with coloured lamps

in various devices. A little lake near a grotto looked particularly pretty, the shrubs all round being illuminated, and the lights reflected in the water. Six and twenty of the prettiest girls of the fashionable world, the Foresters, Brudenells, De Roos, Mary Fox, Miss Russell, &c. &c., were dressed as *rosières*, and opened the quadrille in the pavilion. Walked about a good deal with Lord King's daughter and the Fieldings. Had agreed to go away with Lord Essex at ten, and as the time approached was rather sorry. The Fieldings offered to bring me home, if I would stay, but as they probably would stay till morning, did not like to run the risk of wearing the thing out, and resolved to go while the enjoyment of it was fresh in my mind, so started with Lord E. about half-past ten, the fireworks on the Thames being the only thing I lost. Yesterday my book came out, and there was a flaming eulogy on it in the "Literary Gazette" of to-day. They have given, however, the catastrophe of the story, which is letting the cat out of the bag most provokingly. Dawson (Lord P.'s brother) said to me at the *fête*, "I never read any thing so beautiful as the death of your heroine." "What!" said I, "have you got so far already?" "Oh, I read it in the 'Literary Gazette.'" This is too bad. The Marquis Palmella, too (the Portuguese ambassador), when he and I and Brougham were standing together, said to me, "This is like one of your *fêtes*." Brougham, thinking he alluded to "Lalla Rookh," said, "Oh yes, quite oriental." "*Non, non, je veux dire*," answered Palmella, "*cette fête d'Athènes dont j'ai lu la description dans le Gazette d'aujourd'hui*." Sent Bessy a copy of the book to-day.

July 1st. To Kentish Town to breakfast with Mrs. Shelley. Gave me, written down, her recollections of the "Memoirs." Told me all the circumstances of poor Shelley's death. Showed me a very clever letter of Lord Byron's to her on the subject of Hunt, who had complained of some part of Lord B.'s conduct to him. She thought it a "hard and high" tone he takes with Hunt, and there may be a little too much of this in it, but it is the letter of a clever man of the world. In speaking of Hunt's claim on his friendship, he says he had always served him as far as lay in his power, but that friendship was out of the question, there being but one man (Lord Clare) for whom he en-

tertained that feeling, "and perhaps (he adds afterwards) Thomas Moore." Mrs. S. walked into town with me as far as the Strand, where I went to call on Raymond the great French bookseller. Sat some time with him talking French politics; thinks there is a *crise* coming. Said, speaking of Scott's work, that he feared "Napoleon would dethrone Sir W. Scott in France." Dined at Holland House: company, Lady Keith, the Websters, Sneyd, the Duke of Bedford, Lord J. Russell, &c. &c. Reminded Lady Holland of her saying to Lord Porchester, "I am sorry to hear you are going to publish a poem; can't you suppress it?" "Well," she answered, "I have been reading a work this morning that I should certainly not be for suppressing." "See what you've got by your prose," said Lord Holland; "she was so delighted to find there were no rhymes in your book." Lord John, on the contrary, had told me before dinner that he liked the "Epicurean" very much, but "was sorry I had not made a poem of it." A very flattering article on my book in the "Examiner" of to-day; and it is even praised in that beastly paper the "Age," which calls it "this exquisite work." Allen remarked to-day on the contempt Scott shows for the Highlanders in his novels; always represents them as shabby fellows. "Quentin Durward," Allen said, is the most gentlemanlike of his heroes.

2nd. Have been in correspondence for some days past with Drury of Harrow (whom I rather think I met once at dinner at Murray's) about paying him a visit on the subject of Byron; have fixed to-morrow to come to him. Went to the Longmans, and drew 200*l.* on the account of the "Epicurean," this making altogether near 400*l.* I have anticipated out of its profits. Said to Longman, "I hope it will stand that;" and he replied, "Oh, more than that, I hope." Gave Power 130*l.* to cover the bill he has paid for me, and 20*l.* I have borrowed of him since I came to town. Sent my darling Bess ten of my remaining 50*l.* Dined at Lansdowne House: company, Lord Donoughmore, Abercrombys, Newton, Sharpe, Barings, &c. Sharpe full of praise of my book; said he was "downright in love with Alethe;" and could hardly tell why, for she did little more than raise her beautiful eyes and let them fall again." This, as I told him, was what I aimed at; to make my heroine interesting with as little effort as possible, keeping her down to

the gentle, simple tone which I myself like in women. Had once an idea of putting, as a motto to the book, two lines from Crashaw's verses on St. Theresa:

"Yet, though she cannot tell you why,
She can love and she can die."

But this would have been proclaiming my catastrophe. Spoke of Crashaw's verses; the dialogue between him and Cowley on Hope. Cowley's beautiful "Brother of Fear," &c., and the ingenious couplet,

"The joys which we entire should wed;
Come deflowered virgins to our bed;"

and Crashaw's

"Fair Hope, our earlier heaven, by thee
Young Time is taster to Eternity!"

Lord L. mentioned a letter he had from Ireland, speaking of the "claw of an act," evidently thinking that *clause* was plural. Lady Lansdowne told me she was too late to receive her guests, owing to the "Epicurean," which she had read to within twenty pages of the end. Went in the evening to the British Gallery; met Elwyn there; afterwards to Lady Grey's for a short time.

13th. Started for Harrow in the coach at three, Miss Godfrey and Barbara having taken me to the Green Man and Still in their carriage. Drury had desired me to ask Hobhouse to accompany me, but Hobhouse could not. Forgot to mention that I had some conversation with H. at the Dandy's dinner. * * * We had some talk there about Byron, and he not only readily complied with my wish to have my letters to Byron back, but seemed every way disposed to afford me every facility in my task. Said he thought that enough of original matter of Byron might be collected to make up a volume of such a size as would spare me the trouble of doing more than merely prefixing a light prefatory sketch to it. He also told me he had looked over the letters to Lady Melbourne, and found they were of so confidential and personal a nature that there could hardly, he thought, be any extracts from them for publication. In one of them B. says, "I am going to write a civil letter to such an one, a gallant letter to some one else, an ambitious one to another, and a sincere one to Tom Moore." Added, that he thought it was the duty of the executors to try and make good Lord Byron's intentions of serving me in every

way that lay in their power. Arrived at Harrow about half-past six: no one but Drury himself (who received me most hospitably) and his family at dinner. Dr. Butler joined us in the evening. A good deal of desultory talk about Byron; his quarrel with Butler; could not bear his succeeding Dr. Drury; organised a rebellion against him on his arrival; wrote up in all parts of the school, "To your tents, O Israel!" dragged the desk of the master into the middle of the school, and burnt it. Lived in Dr. Butler's house; pulled down the blinds of his study or drawing-room (?); when charged with it by Dr. B. and asked his reason, said, "They darkened the room." Afterwards, however, when Butler threatened him, cried and blubbered like a child. Always at the head of every mischief. His lameness, they both agreed, was from an accident, being let fall when at nurse; might have been removed if he had not been obstinate at school, and resisted all the precautions and remedies adopted. Was very idle; learnt nothing. His mother a coarse, vulgar woman. The Duke of Dorset a great friend of B.'s at school; did not know that Clare was such a friend of his. Remarkable, very justly, the total contrast in every respect between him and Lord Clare. Spoke of the strong opposition in Harrow to the inscription Byron wished to have over the tomb of Allegra. * * * Drury had some dogs (two, I believe) sent him that had belonged to Lord Byron. One day he was told that two ladies wished to see him, and he found their business was to ask, as a great favour, some relic of Lord Byron. Expecting to be asked for some of his handwriting, or a bit of his hair, he was amused to find that it was a bit of the hair of one of the dogs they wanted. The dog being brought forward the ladies observed a *clot* on his back, which had evidently resisted any efforts at ablution that might have been exerted on the animal, and immediately selected this as the most precious part to cut off; "the probability," they said, "being that Lord B. might have patted that clot." Slept at Drury's.

4th. Started for town at nine o'clock. Met Mrs. Shelley, by appointment, at Power's; sung for her. Called for by the Benetts, and drove about with them a little. Dined at Lady Davy's: company, the Charlemonts, and one of the Lady Clements, the Frankland Lewises, Lord Dudley, Lady Lyndhurst, &c. Lord

Dudley very agreeable. Spoke of Lady Ruthven; the singularity of her going direct from Scotland to Italy and Greece, and when Lord D. first met her she was acquainted with every hole and corner of Athens and Rome, but had never seen either London or Paris. During dinner Lady Lyndhurst said to me across the table, "A friend of mine nearly broke his neck over your book yesterday." It appeared that this friend was so anxious to finish the "Epicurean," that he was reading it in his curriole, and the horses were near running away with him. Some more people came in the evening; Lady Jersey, &c. Sung a little. Lord Dudley very comical about my complaint of the people in the other room: "Very good sort of people, I assure you. You calumniate them; but it is thus that inhabitants of remote regions are always calumniated; your own country, Ireland," &c., &c.

5th. Had a note some days ago from the Duchess of Bedford, hoping I was disengaged for to-day, as they were "particularly anxious" I should dine with them. Asked, also, to Lady Clanricarde's (I rather think to meet Canning), but have been engaged to Agar Ellis this fortnight past. Company at Ellis's: the Jerseys, the Carlises, the Lascelles, Sneyd, Lord Clifden, &c., &c. Ellis told me before dinner that, while he was writing a letter this morning, he heard a violent sobbing behind him, and, on turning round, found it was Lady Georgiana over the "Epicurean." Sung in the evening. Lady Carlisle asked me to come to her on Monday, to meet the Cannings, but I am unluckily going to Harrow. At eleven left Ellis's for Barnes's, a musical party; found them at dancing; danced a quadrille myself (rather than do nothing) with a Miss Jones; very pretty. Playing on the pianoforte, in the bravura style, by a Miss —, I forget who; and some singing to the guitar by a Russian. I sung also. After supper the mother of the bravura young lady sung "Alley Croker" at the table! and the Russian sung, pathetically, to the guitar, Goldsmith's "Good people all, of every sort." His "De dog it var dat died, heigh ho!" very ludicrous.

6th. Went out rather early to perform some commissions: returned to dress, and was called for by Lady Davy between one and two. Went to the Ruthvens', and proceeded with them in their open carriage and four to Tedding-

ton, to pass the day with the Charlemonts. The Charlemonts' place very pretty: they are but just recovering a little the loss of their daughter, who died, after a long illness, three or four months since. The other girl (a very lovely person) has felt it so much, that they have serious fears about her also. After luncheon went on the water; Lady Meath, with some of the girls in another boat: were to have seen a curious old house belonging to Lord —(?), but did not get permission. Returned to dinner between seven and eight; a great mistake not to have dined at first, as we had had all the hot part of the day on the water. Had a pleasant drive home, getting to town between twelve and one.

7th. The Benetts took me out to Brompton, where I wanted to call on Lucy's late maid, Mrs. Winsor, whose husband had just set up as a miniature painter and drawing master. Dined with Colonel Bailly (Elwyn's friend), having been introduced to him by his pretty daughter at the Dandy fete: company, rather an odd assemblage; Lord Fife, Sir J. Beresford, D. Kinnaird, and my friend, Lord Strangford, whom I was very glad to meet, and who sat next me. Said he thought my "Epieurean" the most delicious piece of prose that had ever been written; had a good deal of conversation with him. In the evening some talk with D. Kinnaird about Byron; a great deal of the woman about Byron, in his tenderness, his temper, his caprice, his vanity. Chantrey's remark upon this; the soft voluptuous character of the lower part of his face, and the firmness of the upper part. Promised Miss Bailly to call upon her on Tuesday next.

8th. Breakfasted with Mrs. Shelley. Mentioned the Grand Duke of Tuscany and his family walking past Byron's house at Pisa to get a glimpse of him, Byron not having gone to court. B. gave Leigh (his brother-in-law) some thousands of pounds; I think she said eight thousand. Dined at the Lord Chancellor's at Wimbledon; Luttrell and I went together having clubbed for a job: found the party out in the grounds, which are very pretty: company, besides ourselves, Lord Alvanley, Montague, Dawson, Miss Fitzclarence, Gen. and Mrs. Macdonald and a very pretty daughter, Lady Clare and her daughter. Did not like the appearance of things at first, so many dandies being a portentous prospect: but

got placed at dinner between Miss Macdonald and Miss Fitzclarence, both very pretty and amusing, and enjoyed the time exceedingly: the girls dating their ages and standing by their seasons at Almack's; Miss Macdonald considering herself an old woman from this being her second year at Almack's; Miss F.'s first. Talked of the *rosière* dress at the *fête*; the pattern given by the Miss de Roosees, who said it was to be pretty and cheap, but it turned out neither; cost twelve guineas and good for nothing afterwards: all these details very amusing. In the evening, after a moonlight ramble through the walks, I sung: the Chancellor much delighted, particularly courteous, and begged that if I returned to town during the summer, I would come and pass some days here. Dawson after dinner mentioned a dialogue he had heard in Paris between two Irish gentlemen. "Are you going back to Westmeath?" "No, indeed." "And why not?" "Sure the roof's in." The Rue de la Paix, from the number of English that are always parading it, called "Bullstrode Street."

9th. Started in the coach from Oxford Street about half-past nine, and arrived at Harrow at half past eleven. Drury busy in the school. Sat for some time in the garden, looking over "Bentley's Horace," with MS. notes here and there by Drury. * * * After luncheon Drury took me round to show me the school; Byron's name cut in various places around, but only one or two of them by his own hand. The present desk replaced that which Byron burnt in his rebellion. Showed me his favourite spot in the churchyard, where he used to sit, commanding an extensive view; was called "Byron's tomb" by the boys. It was near this he first wished Allegra to be buried, but afterwards he preferred having her laid under the sill of the church-door: his reason for this preference appears to be his recollection of an inscription over the door, which he used to have before his eyes as he sat in the gallery during church time, and read over and over. The inscription, tame enough, is as follows:

"When Sorrow weeps o'er Virtue's sacred bust,
Our tears become us and our grief is just;
Such were the tears she shed, who grateful pays
This last, sad tribute of her love and praise."

Saw the books in the library which Byron bequeathed to it on leaving Harrow; Porson's edition of "Hecuba," and the following words

written in it by himself, "The bequest of Byron to the library, prior to his leaving Harrow, Dec. 4th, A. D. 1804." After paying a visit to Dr. Butler's returned to Drury's, and occupied myself in copying out some letters of Byron to Drury, and in collating the rough copy of the two first cantos of *Childe Harold* (which he gave to Drury) with the printed edition. Company at dinner, H. and his wife and her sister: music in the evening. Had some hopes of materials from H., but he will evidently do nothing for me. H., when in love with his present wife, was in despair of being able to marry her, from the objection her mother had to giving her to a person so much in debt as he was. On his telling this to Lord Byron, "How much do you owe?" said B. "A thousand pounds," was the answer. "Make your mind easy, then," said Byron, and immediately waited on the mother, and informed her that H. was out of debt: he presented him then with 1400*l*. After Byron's death, there were some efforts made by the executors to constitute this a debt; but there is, I believe, but little doubt it was intended as a free gift: Drury is sure it was, and says he had a letter of Byron's that would prove it, but he has unluckily either lost or mislaid this letter. Mrs. H. must have been very pretty.

10th. Off in the morning at nine. After performing some commissions went to Longman's, to meet Dr. Glennie of Dulwich, on the subject of Byron; Mrs. Glennie with him. A good deal of talk about Byron; promised to resume his memoranda as soon as he should return home. A curious proof of the difficulty one finds in arriving at truth is, that while Drury and Butler both assure me that Byron's lameness was from an accident, Mr. and Mrs. Glennie, under whose care he was for near two years (I think), affirm positively that it was a club-foot, and that he was born with it. Shel-drake used to come to put on the iron; the leg, they say, was not wasted, and the iron went up only a short way. When I mentioned to them his saying to me that he was never altogether free from pain in it, they said he suffered no such pain at that time, and that it must be, perhaps, from his efforts to disguise the deformity that the inconvenience was felt, when I knew him. Byron's mother a vulgar, violent woman; it was she who instilled into him a dislike for Lord Carlisle, with whom she

was continually at war on the subject of Byron's bringing up. Made a racket whenever she came to Glennie's; and the other boys used to say, "Byron, your mother's a fool." "I know it," was his answer. Mentioned a schoolfellow of B.'s (while with him), Lowes, I think, who was very clever, and whose example used to stimulate B. a good deal. B. was much attached to this young man, who died very young. B. always said that Lowes would distinguish himself in the world, and Lowes said the same of him. Must inquire more about this young man from Glennie. Glennie did not see much of Lord B. after he left him. Mrs. G. spoke with much feeling about the *good* that was in him, notwithstanding all his irregularities. When G. was at Geneva (it was after Lord B. had been there) people used jestingly to complain of his not having disciplined B. better, and made a better boy of him. Said he found the folks there highly indignant at Byron's conduct; his incivility in leaving a party to themselves whom he had asked to dine with him. This, I believe, is true. Said that B. wrote some English verses when he was with him; this not reconcilable with what B. says in his *Journal*. Called on Miss Bailly, according to promise. She is, it seems, the model the author of "*Tremaine*" took for his heroine; at least he said that he had never seen any one who approached his beau ideal but Miss Bailly. Mentioned that when Castlereagh was a boy, his mother, writing a letter one day to his father, asked him what she should say for him. "Send him this epitaph which I have written on you," said the boy, which she did, and before the letter had reached the father, she was dead. This same epitaph, it appears, is on her tomb. Where is she buried? Somebody, the other day, in talking of Castlereagh's ignorance (which appears to have been extensive to a degree hardly conceivable), said that he always mistook the phrase "joining issue" with a person to mean agreeing with him. This, however, I believe, is no uncommon vulgarism.

11th. Occupied in preparing for my departure, having taken my place in the mail for the evening. Went, either to-day or yesterday, to look at the books of Lord Byron's that are on sale at Evans's; nothing remarkable among them. There are some pencil marks of his on the "*Prometheus of Æschylus*" (Potter's

translation) about "dethroning Jove," which I must refer to. Forgot to mention that I had a conversation with Barnes respecting my agreement with the "Times:" asked him how much longer I must go on at my present rate of contribution before the proprietors should conceive that I had done enough for the 500*l.* advanced; and, in the next place, at the termination of this engagement, how much they could afford to offer me annually for renewing it. His answer was, that the proprietors, he was sure, would not require any thing further from me on the former account, but would consider that *closed*; and that for future contributions (at such intervals as would entirely suit my own fancy and convenience) they proposed to give me 200*l.* a-year. This, I said, was wholly out of the question; it was a task which, but for the convenience of the money it might bring, I would never undertake at all, and certainly should not think of for so small a sum as 200*l.* a-year. He then asked me to say what I should consider sufficient, and I answered that *if* I entered into a further engagement, which was still a doubtful point with me, I most assuredly could not name a sum less than double what he proposed. He then promptly agreed with me that it *was* as little as I ought to take, and said he would mention it to Walter. A few days after I had a note from him to say that the proprietors were very willing to enter into my views, and repeating what he had before stated, that they required nothing further on the former account. Thus the matter ended when I left town. After having packed up my things, dined at the Athenæum, and started in the mail about eight.

13th to 26th. Employed myself in sorting Lord Byron's letters: looked also over all my other letters and arranged them. Wrote words to an air for the sixth Number of "National Melodies," suggested by some Spanish verses Mrs. Shelley gave me, "Hope comes again." Dined with Lord Kerry and Guthrie at Bowood to meet Bowles: the following week had Kerry and Guthrie to dine with us, to meet the Napiers and Phipps: the same week met the same party at Phipps's. Wrote a squib for the "Times," "Dog-day Reflections."

August 1st to 6th. Transcribing most of the time.

7th. Went to Bowood to dinner, and (my

paper not having arrived before I started) learned for the first time the hopeless state of Canning; felt more affected by it than by any event of a public nature that has occurred in my time. Bowles to dinner; his ill disguised complacency at the news very provoking.

8th. Walked to Devizes to dine with the Hughes's, Bessy having gone there yesterday. Scott and old Crowe at dinner. The evening coaches brought an account of Canning's death at four this morning.

14th. Went to a great *fête* (Bessy and I) at Watson Taylor's, Erlstoke Park; more than 500 people there; the grounds very beautiful, and the arrangements very good. A drench-rain came on just as we were coming away, and the delay and the confusion were beyond any thing I ever saw. Bessy and I, after having been an hour under the shelter of some trees, got to a small room in a cottage, where we remained another hour, and had a dark and rather dangerous drive home. Her fine crape hat, bought for the occasion, put completely *hors-de-combat*.

16th. Bessy and I set off on our visit to Pyt House. Changed horses at Warminster, and arrived between five and six. No company here but the husband elect, Lord Charles, and a young Mr. Jeffries.

17th. Set off early to see Stourhead, in Benett's coach and four; the lovers on the box. Stourhead well worth seeing; some of the pictures good, particularly a Wilson or two, and some Gainsboroughs: the grounds beautiful. Lunched at the inn, and got home between nine and ten at night, when we dined immediately, *sans toilette*.

18th. Went to see Wardour: all new to Bessy; for whom, however, the fatigue was too much. Dear girl! she did not look *herself* at all.

19th. Took Bessy to hear mass at Wardour: the first time she ever saw Catholic service performed. The music as usual (when it is so good) raised me to the skies, but the gaudy ceremonies and the gesticulations of the mass shocked my simple-minded Bessy, and even the music, much as she feels it, could not reconcile her to the gold garments of the priest. Went afterwards to Fonthill and saw the ruins of the Abbey. Beckford evidently never meant it to last, but wanted only a wonder of the day, of which engravings and descriptions might

be made and then—to vanish. Lord Charles took his pretty *future* to church this morning to receive the sacrament, and thought it not decorous to go sight-seeing afterwards. Benett drove Bessy round the grounds of Fonthill, while I took my solitary walk. Endeavoured to cogitate something during my visit here, but could not. Much pressed to prolong our stay till the wedding (next Friday) but cannot spare the time. Bessy a good deal amused with the wedding raiment and trinkets: all splendid.

20th. Having ordered horses yesterday, started for home between one and two, and arrived about six. Received while at Benett's, two packets of Mrs. Shelley's communications relative to Lord Byron, which promise to be most useful to me: had to pay 8s. 6d. for their over-weight.

27th to 31st. Busy transcribing, seeing Lord Kerry and Guthrie occasionally, being all of us anxious about the present struggle between the principles of light and darkness in the Ministry. Sent Power some more things; besides the "Hoep comes again" (already mentioned) have sent him, since I came home, words to an air of Massamino, "Why let them come," three or four translations from the Latin and French for our "Miscellany," and part of an Eastern tale (one of my beginnings for "Lalla Rookh") for the same purpose: also "Ah! why that Tear?" to a French air, and "Smoothly flowing," to another French air. Have received within this period two or three letters from Lord John. Received also a letter from Mr. Barry, of Genoa, in answer to one which I wrote to him after my conversation with Hobhouse at Boyle Farm. * * * Have been pestered ever since Lord L. came into power by people sending me memorials for him to present, and applying for places which they think he can give. A late treasurer of the ordnance wants his pension raised; Mr. — wants indemnity for his losses in the rebellion of '98. A friend of Mary Dalby's wants a commissionership of bankruptcy; and — wants his Whig services in the borough of Ipswich remunerated; besides various other wanting applicants, to all of whom I have given the same answer, viz., that I have made a resolution not to apply to Lord Lansdowne on any such matters. God help their wise heads! If Lord L. ever gives a thought to

myself, it is the utmost I expect, and that but very faintly. Poor Bessy's health far from good; the loss of her sister has sunk deep into her heart, and she is sleepless, nervous, and low-spirited. Dear, excellent Bessy. Received 100*l.* from the Longmans on account of the "Epicurean," making in all 500*l.*

Sept. 1st. Have been over to Bowood two or three times this week, to talk over with Kerry (who is most eager about politics) the present state of affairs, there being every prospect that Lord Lansdowne and his friends will resign. My own wish is most decidedly that they may, if they can make out any good case to justify it; as, with the present constitution of the government, and the feeling of the King on Irish subjects, they will never, I fear, be able to effect the grand objects of their policy. Lord L. was to have come down three or four days ago, and the servants have staid up for him every night, but this negotiation about Herries' appointment (the cause of the present struggle) still detains him. Have employed myself during these visits to Bowood, in collecting some notices for a review. Mean to write on private theatricals, partly with a view of pleasing Corry, and partly to give Jeffrey the worth of his 100*l.*, though he wrote to me to say that the three articles already contributed had completely settled that account, and that whatever I did in future for him should not be "for money" but "for love."

2nd. Between one and two this morning the Lansdownes arrived. Received a note in the evening from Lady L. to ask me to come on Tuesday for two or three days, adding that Lord L. will stay but a short time, and that I must, therefore, "make the most of him." This looks as if he were still in.

3rd. Walked over to Laycock, and saw Lady Elizabeth: knows no more than myself of the state of affairs, but concludes with me, from what Lady L. says of his stay, that he is still in office, and regrets it for the same reason that I do.

4th. An article in the "Times," stating that Lord Lansdowne was summoned by the King to Windsor on Saturday; that he then tendered his resignation, which the King would not accept; and that Lord L. accordingly consented to remain in office, on condition that he might have the royal authority for stating that it was solely in submission to the express de-

sire of his Majesty he did so. Col. Houlton called, loaded with fruit, partridges, &c. for us. Walked over to Bowood to dinner. Saw Lord L., who seemed anxious to explain to me all his reasons for continuing in office. His account of his interview with the King corresponded in substance with that in the "Times." On the King's requesting him to remain in office, rather than dissolve the administration, Lord L. begged that he might have his Majesty's authority for stating that it was expressly at the royal desire he continued to hold the seals, and the King said, "Certainly; and you may add, that it is in the name of the country I ask it." Lord L. then told me, in confidence, that he had at this interview (as I understood him) stipulated for and secured (what had never before been conceded) an *Emancipationist* secretary for Ireland, in case of William Lamb being called away. I agreed with him that, considering all circumstances, he could not do otherwise than remain in for the present, as the concession made by the King in offering the chancellorship of the Exchequer to Huskisson and S. Bourn (the persons preferred by the Whigs), and the sincere desire he had shown for the continuance of the administration, left no other alternative, but obeying his command; there was, in fact, no sufficient ground on which a resignation could be justified. Was a little surprised, I own, to find that the great point of a liberal secretary, at least, for Ireland had not been secured before now. Company at dinner, Fielding and his two daughters (Lady Elizabeth having been kept at home by Talbot's accident), and Mr. and Mrs. Barton. In talking of Scott's corrected edition of his "Napoleon," now announced, Lord L. said he hoped he would find his facts as tractable as Benjamin Constant did, who, on some one asking him (with reference to his book on religion), how he managed to reconcile the statements of his latter volumes with those of his first, published so long ago, answered, "*Il n'y a rien qui s'arrange aussi facilement que les faits.*" Music in the evening. Mrs. Barton sang some things of Ariole's and of my own with me very prettily, being, to boot, a very pretty woman. The Fieldings full of delight and enjoyment at music, and we continued playing and trying over various things till near two o'clock.

Collected some notes, after breakfast, from

different books, relative to private theatres. After luncheon drove out with Lady Lansdowne, the Fieldings, and Mrs. Barton; set me down at Sandy Lane, from whence I walked home to see Bess. Returned to Bowood to dinner; the same party, with the addition of the Bowleses. Bowles all rapture about an article in his dearly beloved "Blackwood" on my "Epicurean," of which he had already written me an account, and which he says is the perfection of eloquence, cordiality, fun, and God knows what! Suspect the cause of all this admiration to be, the said "Blackwood" having quoted him (Bowles) as one of the living examples in support of their position—that poets always write the best prose. Bowles very amusing and odd at dinner; his account of his shillings' worth of sailing at Southampton, and then *two* shillings' worth, and then three, as his courage rose. One of the boatmen who rowed him had been with Clapper-ton in Africa, and told Bowles of their having one day caught a porpoise, and, on opening it, finding a black man, perfect and undissolved, in its belly, the black man having been thrown overboard from some slave ship. After for some time gravely defending this story against our laughter, he at last explained that it was a shark he meant, not a porpoise. In talking of quick transmission of intelligence, Lord L. said the most remarkable instance, perhaps, ever known was that of the news of Buonaparte's coronation being known at Rome twenty-six or eight hours after it occurred. A number of balloons, containing bulletins of the event, were sent up at Paris to take their chance of where they might light, and one of them, falling in with a fair wind for Rome, performed this rapid flight. It lighted, I think he said, at Bolsena, and was from thence dispatched to Rome. Palmella told him the story, and vouched for its truth. Music again in the evening.

5th. After breakfast made extracts from books. The Fieldings went away. Both Lord and Lady L. made such a point of my staying, that I consented, Lady L. offering to call for Bessy and Anastasia, and take them to Mrs. Hughes's. Lord L. fixed to walk with me after luncheon. Looked over "Ginguéné," "Suard's Mélanges," "Amaury Duval's Naples," &c., and made extracts. Found the Houltons when I came to luncheon; had been at Sloper-ton; gave me a note from the

Houltons of Grittleton, wanting me to pass some days there this next week. After luncheon took a long walk with Lord Lansdowne; found him as frank and communicative on the subject of politics as ever, which was rather more than I expected. Has a high opinion of Huskisson, and looks to him now as the chief stay of the Ministry: a straightforward man, with not a tinge of humbug. Is evidently *bored* by being in office. In mentioning the plague it was to him to be the responsible person, at whom all who thought they had claims upon the Whigs aimed, said, "And, what makes it worse, I have literally nothing whatever to give away except a little Scotch patronage, which must all go in the old channel, and which I am obliged to take the trouble of distributing among the right objects, without ever expecting the slightest thanks for my pains." This (if I had not already been aware of the hopeless state of the case) was a sufficient hint to me of the little prospect I have of any thing being done for me. In returning from our walk, met Bessy on her way to Buckhill. Left Lord L. and accompanied her. Company at dinner, the Bartons, and Heneages, and Fieldings. Singing in the evening. * * *

7th to 9th. Transcribing Byron's letters, and writing a little of the article for Jeffrey. Sent Power also some verses, "No and Yes," and a prose thing about the Père la Chaise for the "Miscellany."

10th. * * * Another application for my interest with Lord L. from —, who wants some good "legal situation." I dare say he does.

11th. Lady L. called for Anastasia, and, as the day was wet, took me too. Company at dinner, Sir C. Lemon, Oakden, Newton, and Lady L.'s brother, Strangeways. Received this morning an answer from Lord Holland to a letter I wrote him, by the advice of Bowles, to ask his interest with the Warden of Winchester to have my little Tom put on the foundation. Says he has wholly exhausted his interest in that quarter, and that it would be working a willing horse to death to try any further. This is a disappointment to me. I seldom, God knows! ask favours, and such is my luck when I do. Showed this answer to Lord L., who had known of my writing, and promised to keep the subject in Lord Holland's recollection. Lord H. thus alludes to the late

events in the Ministry: "The appointment of Herries will, in some senses, be a disappointment of many, and a bad appointment for all. But yet I think it could not have been avoided, and am satisfied that our friend and your neighbour Lansdowne, harassed and beset as he was with difficulties, has decided for the best in point of prudence and policy. That he has done so with the most honourable views and best intentions even our enemies admit." Received a letter also to-day from Barnes, which has crossed my letter of yesterday on the road. Is going on a tour to the North of France. Tells me of some Frenchman who proposes to translate the "Epicurean." In speaking of the late Ministerial bustle, and remarking upon the absurd nature of it, he adds, "Lord Lansdowne has, indeed, come out with increased reputation; but, in the name of common sense, why was the occasion furnished for such a display of honour and integrity?" Showed this to Lord L. Had a good deal of conversation with him on the hopelessness of the prospect before him; the difficulties he has encountered in effecting the great public objects he has at heart. Am convinced that there never existed in any mind a more disinterested, unostentatious, or sincere desire to serve the cause of good and liberal policy, in all its bearings.

12th. A good deal of talk at breakfast about Lord Dudley; his two voices; squeak and bass; seems, as some one said, "like Lord Dudley conversing with Lord Ward;" his manner of rehearsing in an under voice what he is going to say, so that people who sit near can overhear what he is about to utter to the company. Somebody who proposed to walk a little way with him heard him mutter, in this sort of consultation with himself, "I think I may endure him for ten minutes." Oakden told me not a bad joke of the old Chancellor's. Old Bond (the clergyman, whom I met in Dorsetshire) having said, in conversing with Lord E., "You are now then, my Lord, one of the Ex's." "Yes, Mr. Bond," answered Lord E., "and, in this last instance, I must confess the X's were not Y's" (wise). Oakden heard of me from the Bonds, and of my enjoyment of their magnificent coast. Mentioned that at the little watering place, Swanage, which used annually to be the great resort of *parsons* coming to put themselves in the way of Lord Eldon, there is now but a

single shovel-hat to be seen. The Fieldings to dinner. Talked of Porson; one of his *scherzi*, the translation of "Three blue beans in a blue bladder:" *τρεις κυαναι κυαναι*, &c. The coolness with which he received the intelligence (which Raine trembled to communicate to him) of the destruction by fire of his long laboured "Photius;" he merely quoted "To each his sufferings, all are men," adding, "let us speak no more on the subject," and next day patiently began his work all again. At some college dinner, where, in giving toasts, the name was spoken from one end of the table, and a quotation applicable to it was to be supplied from the other, on the name of Gilbert Wakefield being given out, Porson, who hated him, roared forth, "What's Hecuba to him or he to Hecuba?" Said one night, when he was very drunk, to Dodd, who was pressing him hard in an argument, "Jemmy Dodd, I always despised you when sober, and I'll be damned if I'll argue with you now that I'm drunk." Mentioned his translation into Greek of the "Children sliding on the ice." Sung in the evening.

13th. Conversation after breakfast about Molière; his putting his most keen satire into the mouth of simple, ordinary persons, like Toinette in the "Malade Imaginaire." In talking of the "*Nous avons changé tout cela*," Sir C. Lemon said that this was verified by a man he met at Nice, in whom it was found, after he died, that the heart and liver had changed places. Mentioned the indignation of the *valets de chambre* of Louis XIV. at having Molière made one of their august fraternity. The Duke of Grafton (Junius's) was a great *malade imaginaire*; used to have mutton every day for dinner, and for a long series of years used every day to call up the cook a quarter of an hour before dinner to give the same directions as to the dressing it. It is told that on some brother statesman coming to consult with him on some public business, the Duke kept balancing back and forwards all the time of the consultation, which he apologised for, and explained by saying a certain degree of motion was necessary to him. Odd fancies for a fox-hunter. Potiers playing Apollo, and threatening some one with the *point (poing) du jour*. Newton, as being fresh from Saltram, full of conundrums, my Lady Morley being much given

thereto. Looked over a few more books. After luncheon Napier came to pay a visit, and I "did the state some service" by relieving Lord Lansdowne of him. He walked to Sloperon with me and Newton. N. tried to make a sketch of Anastasia, but did not succeed. Dined at home.

14th and 15th. A letter from one of the editors of the "Foreign Review," requesting me to undertake an article for it. Suggests as subject the "Life of Molière," and offers 100*l.*, requiring only two sheets. This very liberal, and the subject a delightful one, but have not time for it.

16th and 17th. Working at the article for the "Edinburgh," and transcribing a little.

18th. Finding myself at a loss for books of reference, walked to Bowood. The Bishop of Sodor and Man there; waited till he was gone. Lady L. then pointed out to me the places of the different books I wanted, and left me to myself, Lord L. saying that when I was ready to go home he would walk part of the way with me. Did so. Had brought him Barnes's answer to my communication of his (Lord L.'s) message of thanks.

19th. Houlton's gig came to take me to Farley, but I have already more distractions this week than I can manage with my conscience or comfort, so sent the gig back without me. Surprised by a visit from Edward Moore, who occupied the rest of my day till dinner. After dinner left us for Bath.

20th. Bessy and I and Anastasia dined at Locke's; company, Mr. and Mrs. Powell and daughter, the Scotts, and Collingses. Powell mentioned a truly Irish circumstance of T. (who lately rented a house of his); when he was leaving home for some time the servants mentioned that there was small beer wanted for the kitchen. "Oh, never mind," says T., "there is a pipe of port you know in the hall; you can tap that and mix it with water; only take care to make it weak enough." The servants, of course, obeyed all but the last part of the direction, and there was little of the pipe left on his return.

21st. Transcribing. Walked to Laycock to dinner, and got wet. Company, only the Lansdownes and Montgomery. On my telling Lord L. of the proposal of the "Foreign Review," he mentioned the agreement per sheet of the Abbé Prevost (the author of "Manon

d'Escaut") who never wrote a syllable further than the exact quantity for which he was to receive his louis d'or (viz. a sheet), nor ever took up his pen again till the louis d'or was spent. A good deal of music in the evening, the girls and their governess playing very charmingly on the pianoforte and guitar, and I (for a rarity) allowed to act the part of a listener. Slept there.

22nd. Passed the morning in music. Went with Lady Elizabeth to Money's, her first visit. Money anxious that I should come on Monday to meet his sister-in-law (a French woman), of whose beauty and agreeableness Lady Elizabeth speaks wonders. Got home to dinner.

24th. Bessy transcribing. Sent an excuse to Money's. The day before yesterday there was in the "Times" a versification of Lord Eldon's joke (X.'s and Y.'s) which I sent up last week; better in the telling than the writing.

25th. Bessy took Anastasia to Bath. Walked over to Bowood: pressed me to stay or to return to dinner; promised the latter, though almost sure I could not do it. Lord L. and Kerry walked a good part of the way home with me. Asked Lord L. whether I might venture to tell Corry the exact terms in which Lord Anglesey had expressed his refusal to put Verner on his staff, as the Orangemen of Dublin are, I find, insisting that Verner has not been refused. Lord L. said he should see Lord A. in town next week, and would then ascertain whether he had any objection to the exact words being mentioned. On my return home found so much of my article yet to be transcribed as would make it impossible for me to dine at Bowood. Despatched off a messenger to Bowood to say so, and received an answer insisting upon my coming, by way of amends, to-morrow. Worked till near twelve at night transcribing.

26th. Packing up for our journey to town. At between four and five (having transcribed to the last minute) set off to walk with Bessy, she for Buckhill, and I for Bowood. A desperate thunder-shower overtook us on the way, and drenched us completely; my sweet Bess laughing at it with more philosophy than I could. Overtook our man with some of my luggage, which enabled me to change at Bowood, while Bessy proceeded with Mr. Hughes (who came to meet us) to Buckhill. Nobody at dinner but Miss Ricardo. Sat a good while

after dinner *tête à tête* with Lord L. talking politics. Offered to send the carriage with me to Buckhill, but, the rain having ceased, walked with a man and lantern, through the pleasure grounds. Slept at Buckhill.

27th. Started with Bessy at eight in the York House coach: got to Power's at seven: Bessy went immediately to her mother, and I to look after my tailor, &c. &c. Slept at Power's.

28th. Went to the Longmans'; Rees not at home. The fourth edition of the "Epicurean" going off steadily. Called at the "Times" office; Barnes still absent. Called for Bessy at her mother's, where she dined, and went shopping with her. Dined alone at the Athenæum.

29th. Ellis (the Irish Ellis) at breakfast. Corrected some proofs of the sixth Number of "National Melodies," and had some talk with Power about our proposed "Miscellany." Went to Longmans'. Rees says he thinks the "Epicurean" rather gaining ground. Went to the Bazaar (Soho Square) to look for Bessy; was lucky enough to find her, and took her shopping.

30th. After breakfast called upon Lord Lansdowne, and sat some time. Lord Anglesey does not wish the exact words of his letter to be mentioned. Lord Lansdowne going to-day to Cashibury, and offered to take me if I would go with him. Back with Bessy at one to go to Hornsey to our poor Barbara's grave. Had written from Sloperton to the Longmans to beg they would send some one to have all made clean and in good order there, lest the dear girl should be shocked by any appearance of neglect, and found yesterday they *had* done so. Young Longman kindly rode over twice to Hornsey for the purpose. Walked as far as Holborn, and took a hackney coach from thence. Got to the churchyard about three; and the sight of the grave (in spite of ten years that have since elapsed) brought back feelings to the mother that could only be relieved by a burst of tears. Home again to the Strand before five. Bessy's mother again at dinner.

October 1st. Up at half-past five to accompany Bessy to the coach, which took her up at the top of Buckingham Street. Went with her to the Gloucester Coffee House, and saw her off. Meant to have left town myself to-day, but the Longmans having expressed a wish that I should stay to dine with the Sheriffs (Spottis-

woode being one of them), I consented to defer my departure till to-morrow. After breakfast called at the Spanish ambassador's to inquire after the Villamils, whom we rather expected from France, and found, to my no small mortification, that they have been in London these three weeks. So provoking that Bessy should not have known it, one of her chief objects in town being to see them, and it never occurred to me to inquire at the Spanish ambassador's till this morning. Saw Mrs. V. and some of the children, but not V. Thought he might like to dine with the Sheriffs, and accordingly posted off to Paternoster Row, and procured a card of invitation for him. At five went to the dinner; introduced to several of the civic personages, Sir C. Domville, Alderman Venables, &c. &c. Denman took me by the arm walking in to dinner, and wanted me to sit next to him, but could not, my place being already "written." Sat next to Longman. Got away between ten and eleven. Villamil did not make his appearance.

2nd. Started in the Northampton coach at twelve; a wretchedly slow coach. Did not arrive at Northampton till near half-past nine. The George an excellent inn.

3rd. Walked about Northampton, and wrote letters till about three, when I started in the Nottingham coach, and arrived at Loughborough between eight and nine. Dined, not having eaten any thing since nine in the morning. Slept there (the Bull's Head).

4th. Called upon Mary Dalby's sister, Mrs. Blunt, before I started for Donington. Had a chaise; passed through Kegworth; saw our wretched old barn of a house, and stopped at Dr. Parkinson's; out walking; left word I would come over to-morrow. Got to Castle Donington between one and two. Dalby looking aged and rigid, and his two daughters grown into nice young women; near twelve years since I saw them before. Walked about the village; called on the Miss Matchetts. In the evening had music (the Miss Matchetts being of the party), and my old friend Mary did not spare me.

5th. Set off with Dalby after breakfast to the Park. Walked over the house and felt deeply interested by it; every thing looked so familiar, so redolent of old times. The breakfast-room, the old clock, and the letter boxes on each side of it, all remaining the same

as they were near thirty years ago, when I felt myself so grand at being the inmate of such a great house. It seemed as if it was but yesterday I had left it, and I almost expected at every turn to see the same people meeting me with the same looks. But, alas! what surprised me was to find that I had all the *pictures* so thoroughly by heart, for I certainly did not much care about painting when I was young, and knew still less of it than I do now. Yet there was not a figure in any of the landscapes that did not seem to me as familiar as my own face. The portrait of Galileo with his head leaning so thoughtfully on his hand, and seeming to say, with a sort of mournful resolution, *et tamen movet*; the pretty Nell Gwynne, the brawny Venus, professing to be a Titian, &c. &c. Walked round the pond, that hopeless pond! in endeavouring to fill which Lord Moira expended so much trouble and money without success; the water still escaping like his own wealth, through some invisible and unaccountable outlets, and leaving it dry. If any thing was wanting to show the uselessness of experience to mankind, it would be found in what I now witnessed. From 1799 to 1812 I had seen workmen incessantly employed in puddling and endeavouring to staunch this unfortunate pond, and now, in 1827, I found about a dozen or fifteen robust fellows up to their knees in the mud, at the same wise employment. *Oh curas hominum!* Poor Lord Hastings! I remember Rogers once saying (as he read the inscription on the dial in the yard here), *Eheu fugaces!* "He means his *estates*, I suppose." Joined by Mary Dalby, and walked back to Donington with her; lunched, and set off with Dalby to walk to Kegworth. Dined with Dr. Parkinson at three; a remarkable man of his age; walks as erect as a boy, and is in his eighty-third year. Talked of Anastasia as "his little girl;" he is her godfather; gave us some good claret, and was very cheerful. Dalby said that I had inspired him, and that he had not for years seen him so lively. Walked back to Donington, and drank tea with the Matchetts; had music; after which the girls acted charades very amusingly. A Miss Clayton and young Haydon of Derby sang some old glees with me.

6th. Sauntered about with Mary and Dalby. Mentioned a good cockneyism of some one, who

said that the Duchess of St. Alban's, during her late stay at Ashby, "visited all her old aunts" (haunts). Music and charades in the evening.

7th. Walked to Kegworth at eleven, having sent my portmanteau on yesterday. Called and took leave of Dr. Parkinson; went to see the old house we lived in in 1812; sat also some time with Mrs. Ingram. At three, Lord Ranciliffe's gig came for me. Arrived at Bunny * between four and five. Had called on the Holcombs on my way. No one at dinner but Ranciliffe, Mr. Fellowes of Nottingham, and myself. Fixed to see Newstead to-morrow.

8th. Set off at ten in a gig, driven by one of Lord Ranciliffe's postilions: stopped at Fellowes's, at Nottingham, and another horse having been sent on in the morning, proceeded with Fellowes in the gig to Newstead: went by a road which took us past Papplewick: must see the history of this place: Ben Jonson, &c. &c. The road bad and sandy. Much struck by the first appearance of the Abbey: would have given worlds to be alone: the faithfulness of the description in "Don Juan;" the ruined arch, the Virgin and Child, the fountain, &c. &c. Col. Wildman out shooting, but was sent for; introduced to Mrs. W. and the ladies in the drawing-room; the ceiling, which is restored, very rich; supposed to be Italian work: Col. Wildman arrived; showed me all over the house; the dining-room which Byron used when he first took possession, the small apartment he afterwards occupied, dinner, sitting, and bedroom; some furniture of his in Wildman's study brought from Cambridge; the monument to the dog; his own intention was that he should be buried in a vault at Newstead, with his dog and old Murray (?); the little oak before the house planted by himself; a plantation at a distance (beyond the lake?) also planted by himself; picture of "little Sir John with the great beard;" the panels with the heads new painted and gilt by Wildman: imagines that there was some story connected with them, as in all of them there is the head of a female, with the Moor on one side, and sometimes a Christian on the other, gazing at her. Some of Byron's ancestors served in the Holy wars, and W. thinks these figures may allude to their adventures. Found that Wildman's face was quite familiar to me, and re-

minded by him that we met at Kilkenny and elsewhere: full of the kindest civility, and evidently most anxious that I should come and pass some time at Newstead, which would be a great object to me, as from his zeal in every thing relating to Byron, he could be of essential service to me, having studied the history of the family, of the place, &c. But an unlucky quarrel, which has occurred between him and Ranciliffe, still subsists in full vigour, and I can see that R. would be annoyed if I accepted the invitation: must come some other time. Made an excuse to Wildman, that I was in a hurry to get home, but would certainly return before long to pay him a visit. Told me he has just received a letter from the Duke of Sussex, who says, "I see by the papers that our Anacreon is on his way to you; give him my kind remembrances, and say I hope he will be with you when I come." He expects the Duke at the beginning of November. Returned by the turnpike road. Found Lord Ranciliffe at Nottingham, who drove me to Bunny; the evening dark, and his horse most formidably skittish; near running away with us twice; was right glad when I found myself safe housed.

10th. Still wretchedly wet. Employed myself, as yesterday, in correcting some sheets of "Lalla Rookh" for the new edition that is preparing, the first time I have read it since it was published; accordingly, it came quite fresh to me, and more than one passage in the story of Zelica filled my eyes with tears. Company to dinner * * * Ranciliffe had tried to get the Chaworths, Mrs. Chaworth having, to my great gratification, expressed a wish to know me; but she is unluckily confined to her bed with illness. Mrs. John Fellowes and Mrs. Pennington all in raptures about the singing of yesterday: told me that, on my shaking hands with Miss —, she instantly wrapped up the hand in her shawl, saying no one should touch it that night. Sung in the evening.

11th. Left Bunny at twelve, in the gig: and having secured my place in the coach for Derby, lunched at Mrs. Fellowes's. Mrs. F.'s account of Byron's coming down to his mother when dying, and about her son's leg and Byron's; comparing notes with Mrs. Byron; their being afterwards under Sheldrake together. Set off at three o'clock; the John Felloweses had offered to take me in their carriage to Der-

* Lord Ranciliffe's country-house.

by, but they went too early for me. An intelligent man joined me in the coach when within a few miles of Derby; had travelled a good deal; rather think he found me out in the course of conversation, as, on my saying I meant to put up at the King's Head, he invited me very civilly to take tea with him. Sent a porter immediately on my arrival at the King's Head to inquire if Mr. Strutt was at home; the answer, "that he was, and would be glad to see me immediately." Went and found sixteen people just seated down to a splendid dinner: joined them as I was, *sans toilette*, and as soon as the dazzle of the lights went off, discovered a set of well-known faces around me,—Wm. Strutt and one of his daughters, Hugginson, old Hadley, Dr. Bent, &c. &c. In the evening Strutt's new picture gallery lighted up. Sung a little to the old well-remembered pianoforte, while Anne Strutt, with her eyes sparkling, said it made her eleven years younger to hear me. Slept there.

12th. A good deal of conversation after breakfast with Strutt's daughter Caroline (now Mrs. Hart), a very nice person. At one started with Mr. Strutt in his carriage for Ashbourne. Got to John Cooper's about four; all most happy to see me; none but ourselves at dinner.

13th. After I had written some letters, all went, in Mr. Strutt's carriage, to see Ham.* The valley beautiful; the house furnished richly, but in good taste: Mrs. Watts Russell showed us the picture gallery. Talked of Chantrey's "contempt" (as she expressed it) for the old masters, when he hung the pictures there, putting all the modern ones in the best lights. a beautiful Wilson. Went with Watts Russell to look at Chantrey's monument to old Watts in the mausoleum. On our return home found Mrs. Robert Arkwright arrived with a friend of hers, a Miss Holon or Heron. Sat next Mrs. Arkwright at dinner, and was as much pleased with her as ever. In the evening she sang several things of her own I had never heard before, and all charming: "Far from my own bright land," the words by Mrs. Hemans; "The Address to the Sea," too, by Mrs. Hemans, which is too fine for any music to do it justice: sung also her music to my words, "Then bring me showers of roses, bring," beautifully.

14th. While the rest of the party were at

* Ham Hall, near Dovedale, Mr. Watts Russell's.

church, walked to visit my old cottage at Mayfield, which is inhabited now by the son of the landlord (Shaw) and another farmer; nothing poetical about it but the situation. Went up the walk in the orchard which I had so often paced along in writing "Lalla Rookh:" looked through all the rooms and thought of old times. Went afterwards to Mayfield churchyard, to visit the grave of our poor little Olivia Byron; the tombstone still stands almost alone. Called afterwards on Dan Smith: the grounds much altered and improved since old Cooper had it, but the house very much the same: remembered our gay suppers, our play-readings, and Selina, &c. &c. After luncheon set off, the whole party (Mrs. Arkwright, &c.) to see a cottage of John Cooper's at Digden, a beautiful, secluded spot, with a fine wooded valley under it. Mrs. R. Arkwright full of praises of my "Epicurean;" said it was the most beautiful book she had ever read. Took an opportunity, as we walked, of asking her to give me some of her songs for my projected "Miscellany:" said I might have any or all with the greatest pleasure. The Dan Smiths at dinner, young Webster, &c. Singing in the evening: began with sacred, but slid gradually into the profane; a fine sacred song by Mrs. Arkwright to the Bishop of Calcutta's words, "Who follows in their train?"

16th. A long conversation after breakfast: talked much of Hodgson, of whom Mrs. R. A. thinks most highly: says he is "a blessing" in the neighbourhood. Talked of Lord Byron's gift to him on his marriage, which the executors have claimed as a debt: Lord B. evidently meant it as a gift, but Hodgson having (she says, merely to ease his own mind of the sense of obligation, without having the least idea or intention of ever paying the sum) insisted on giving his bond in return, Lord B., from heedlessness perhaps, omitted to destroy this bond, and the executors, in pursuance of the duty imposed upon them, claim the payment of it. She says the sum claimed is 2000*l*. Find that Mrs. Cooper has a collection of old pens of mine, on which there is written, "Pens with which Mr. Moore wrote Lalla Rookh;" preserves also a bit of one of my old torn gloves. Mrs. R. A. mentioned a good *bon mot* of a friend of hers, a lady, who was at a fancy ball, dressed with a band round her forehead, and a veil hanging from it; "Is that a *veal*?" said

a vulgar man, addressing her, and mincing the word as I have spelt it. "Yes," she answered, pointing to the band, "a *fillet*." Sung for me several songs of hers I had never heard before: "What is Love, kind Shepherd, tell?" in which the repetition of the word "repentance" has a very striking effect. Forgot to mention that there arrived yesterday a man and horse from the Duke of Devonshire, with a note for me, inviting me over to Chatsworth, telling me I shall meet "John Russell," and saying how glad he should be to show me the alterations he has made since I was at Chatsworth before. Cannot spare the time, though I should like it. Mrs. Arkwright, who is going there herself, offers to take me, and presses most urgently that I should accompany her; but cannot. Having left several copies of my autograph, and impressions of my seals for various ladies, at about three o'clock started in the coach for Birmingham. Read my *Hudibras*, and arrived at Birmingham between eight and nine. Dined and slept, contrary to my expectation, very comfortably. N. B. Castle Inn.

Arrived at Cheltenham between two and three. One of the first persons I met, Col. O'Neil: asked me to dine with him to-day at the Imperial: answered conditionally. After dressing, called at Williams's, the bookseller, to inquire after Mr. Malpin, who was to be my introducer to some persons likely to be useful to me, he said, on the subject of Byron: not in Cheltenham, but expected to-morrow. Called upon Lord Ashtown, who wanted me to dine with him, to meet Col. French. Dined with O'Neil; a *table d'hôte*; excellent dinner; more than twenty of the party, and almost all Irish; among others, Mr. Trevor, the son of Lord Dungannon, and young Plunket, the *Plunket's* son. Mr. Trevor mentioned Lord ——— going to a fancy ball at Florence as the hero of his own novel, *Sir Something Maltravers*, and, as nobody had read the novel, nobody, of course, could make out his character, so that he was obliged to inform them, "*Voyez, regardez, je suis mon livre*." Plunket told some things of Scott, when he was at his father's; his painful exhibition in scrambling into St. Kevin's bed. Somebody said to one of the guides who attended him, "Well, how do you like that gentleman: that's Sir Walter Scott, the great poet." "A poet,"

answered the fellow, "No, no, the devil a poet he is, but a real gentleman, for he gave me half-a-crown." Went for a short time in the evening to Miss Crump.

18th. Mr. Malpin not yet arrived. O'Neil anxious that I should stop over Saturday to dine with his brother-in-law, Prescott: promised to do so. Found that Mr. Scott, one of the persons I came to see at Cheltenham, had gone to London: unlucky this: he is the brother of the Scott I saw with Lord Byron at Venice, and has, they say, a box of letters from B. to him. Dined again at the Imperial with an old college acquaintance of mine, Peacock; not so agreeable as yesterday. Went with Peacock afterwards to a Mr. Stewart's, where some people were to assemble for the ball. Found the Miss Strutts and a Miss R., a pretty, *piquante* little girl, who mixed French and English in her talk rather amusingly. Went from thence to the ball, Miss R. my companion. The Master of the Ceremonies had arranged that the band should strike up an Irish Melody on my entering the room: about 400 people, through whom I had to run the gauntlet as chief lion of the night. Met some very old acquaintances, among others the Belchers, at whose house I slept four-and-twenty years ago at Halifax, in Nova Scotia, and have not seen since.

19th. Find that no coach leaves Cheltenham for Bath on Sunday, so resolved to excuse myself to Mr. Prescott, and be off on Saturday. Got hold of Mr. Millet, another of the persons I came to look after; walked with him to his house: his wife, who is dead, was intimate with Miss Chaworth, and saw a good deal of Byron when he was a boy: said that Miss C. did not like Byron, nor did his wife, nor any of the girls. Showed me a poem in Byron's handwriting, written apparently soon after he left Harrow: doubted at first whether it was really Byron's handwriting, but on further examination, concluded that it was: took a copy of it, preserving all its bad spelling. Called with him at Mr. Scott's, in order, if possible, to see Mrs. Scott, but she was ill and could not receive us: sent in an inquiry as to where Mr. Alexander Scott, the brother, was at present; answered that she believed he was still at Venice. A note at my hotel directed "To the immortal Thomas Moore, Esq.;" only think of an immortal *esquire*; expected to hear the

chambermaids cry out "Some hot water for the immortal gentleman in No. 18." Dined with Mr. Benson, the member for Stafford, to whom I had been introduced by O'Neil; an Irish party, Lady Stamer, her daughter Lady Smith, and husband, O'Neil, &c. &c.

20th. Started in the coach for Bath a little before nine; arrived, I think, between three and four. Went immediately to see Anastasia, having had some misgivings that she was not very well. Told by Miss Fisher (whom I first saw) that she had suffered a good deal. When the dear girl herself came, was shocked and alarmed by her looks, which seemed to me full of ill omen; so languid and pale. Wrote off instantly to Bessy to come over to-morrow, and see whether we ought not to have her home again. Called upon Dr. Crawford, who was not at home; on Elwyn, who was not in Bath; and on Lord Ashtown, who asked me to dine with him; did so; no one but Lady Ashton, Miss Armstrong, and himself. In the evening went to Crawford, who told me I had taken a false alarm about Anastasia, as he looked upon her general health to be better than he had ever known it, and her thinness, considering all things, was just as it ought to be. Found Martin and Lady Charlotte Martin (daughter of Lord St. Germain's) there. Slept at the York House.

21st. Went after breakfast to Anastasia; saw her now with rather different eyes, and felt that I had given way to my apprehensive imagination somewhat too easily. Between ten and eleven Bessy arrived with Mary Hughes. On my letter to her yesterday (forgetting that it would reach Devizes at night) I wrote, "Mr. Smith is requested to send a messenger with this immediately to Sloperton." Accordingly he dispatched a man and horse, by whom poor Bess was roused out of her first sleep (the man having brought a horn with him for the purpose), and to her consternation received this unseasonable dispatch. Luckily Anastasia had written at the same time with me, and gave a good account of herself, otherwise Bessy would have come off in the middle of the night. After laughing a good deal at her comical account of her fright (for the dear girl mingles cheerfulness with every thing), we resolved that Anastasia should not be disappointed of her hope of a visit home, and that we would take her back with us for Tom's birth-

day. Took Bessy to call on Mrs. Crawford, who pressed us to stay dinner, and, at last, I agreed to stay. Saw Bessy off about three, and then walked a little about Bath. Met Elwyn in the Crescent, where we sauntered together. Company at Crawford's, the Martins and Elwyn. Sung a little after dinner. Went afterwards to Winsor's, and took Elwyn with me. Some very good singing from Miss Winsor, particularly Bishop's "Songs of the Angels;" sang also, with much spirit, his setting of "Here's a Health to thee, Tom Moore!"

22nd. Started for home in the coach at ten: got down at Buckhill, and called at Bowood on my way. Found Rogers and Mr. Grenville: saw also Lord and Lady L., who welcomed me very kindly, and said they had been in great want of me. Lord L. had written to me at Cheltenham, but I did not get his letter. Promised to come over and dine to-morrow. Rogers walked part of the way home with me. Found quantities of letters waiting for answers at home. One from a young lady at Bristol to ask my opinion of a volume of poems of her own, which she sends me: another from Madame —, full of surprise at my want of politeness in never having acknowledged the receipt of her translation of the "Corsair;" a third, from a gentleman in Wexford, begging me to decide a wager, as to whether I was born in Wexford or Dublin, and so on. All this stuff, too, I have to answer. Communications from my friend the schoolmaster at Aberdeen, and from a Dr. Ewing of the same place, relative to Lord Byron, rather interesting.

23rd. A desperately wet day; cleared up a little towards dinner time, when I set out. Met the carriage coming for me, and got into it. Company, the Fazakerleys, the Cunliffes, Rogers, Mr. Grenville, O'Driscoll, and young Romilly. Sung with Mrs. Fazakerley.

24th. Wished me to stay over to-day, but, being little Tom's birthday, was in duty bound to be at home. Rogers walked home with me; very delightful for two-thirds of the way, but then suddenly turned off (as the day did). Found Hughes at the cottage. His account of Bowles's lecture to his curate, on his use of hard words in preaching, very amusing. Summoning up all his servants before the curate, to ask them, one by one, whether they understood the meaning of the word "final." First the cook; then, Thomas. "Do you, Thomas

know what 'final' means?" "No, sir." Then turning to the curate, "You see, now," &c. &c. Walked a little way back with Sam, and then returned to my little Tom, who had his two friends, the young Hugheses, to pass the day with him.

26th. Towards five started for Bowood: met by John Murray, who had sallied out with Napier (the latter having been paying a visit to Bowood) for the purpose of meeting me. Murray read me a waggish letter he had just received from Sydney Smith. Company, the same as before, with the addition of Murray, Bailey, and Crabbe, whom I was rejoiced to meet. Fazakerley told me after dinner two or three puns of Lord Wellesley's; one addressed by him to *Gally Knight*, when they were on shipboard together, and Knight was looking very rueful with sickness and uncomfört: "Come, come, cheer up; *you*, of all people can't expect to be exempt from annoyances; you know what Horace says,

'——neque
Decedit arata *triremi*, et
Post *equitem* sedet atra cura.'

Lord Lansdowne referred to a passage in Hallam's new work ("Constitutional History," &c.) which he said had puzzled him considerably, chiefly on account of the word "imped," which, it is singular enough, neither he, nor Fazakerley, nor any of the *prose* part of the company ever remembered to have met before. Rogers and I were, of course, familiar with it. On turning to the passage, found that Hallam had prepared for the use of this verb by employing before it the word "soar." He is talking, if I recollect right, of the ambition of the leaders (?), and says, "it would not have soared so high, if it had not been impeded by the perfidious hand of parliament." The book however, it seems, is a very able one. Recollecting what Mackintosh once said to me, that it would be a shame for me, an Irishman, to let Crabbe go out of the world without leaving on record some particulars of his intercourse with Burke, I took this opportunity of questioning him, and am so far glad I did so, as it satisfied me he has nothing to tell. Having kept no notes of Burke's conversation, he has only a vague and general impression of its variety and power, and the recollection uppermost in his mind is that of Burke's great kindness to him. It was in consequence of his

having written to B. (without any previous introduction) that he was first noticed by him. B. then asked him whether he was known to any one in London, and, on Crabbe mentioning Dudley North, inquired about him from this gentleman, and then asked him to Beaconsfield, where he passed, he says, three months at a time. Crabbe not liking his profession, which was the medical (apothecary?), Burke recommended him to the Duke of Rutland, who brought him into the Church. Burke criticised some of the thoughts of his poem, but did not (as has been sometimes said) suggest any lines or changes of lines. It was Johnson did this, and Boswell has preserved them (?). Another passage of Hallam produced, exhibiting the same ambition of style. "Silent and sluggish in its fields, like the animal which it has chosen for its type, the deep-rooted loyalty of the English people," &c. &c. The animal here, it is to be supposed, is the bull, but, by the construction of the sentence, it is the loyalty that is represented as "silent and sluggish in its fields," and, in addition to these two unintelligible qualities, "deep-rooted" into the bargain. They talk of the metaphors of poets, but from the metaphors of *prose*-men, defend us! Sung in the evening, and made Lady Louisa's governess (as I afterwards heard) cry most profusely. Two gentlemen, however, playing at chess, and Mr. Grenville's long dark back turned towards me (as he stood looking at them), formed no very encouraging ingredients of an audience.

27th. Talking at breakfast of Gilbert Wakefield; while in Dorchester gaol he wrote a letter to Lord Holland complaining of his various grievances, one of which was his being asked to dine with the gaoler, a circumstance not only humiliating, but embarrassing to him, as the gaoler's "hour of dining *oscillated* between two and five." This sort of oscillatory dinner is a match for Jeremy Bentham's "post-prandial vibration." In Wakefield's defence of himself on his trial (it was, I believe, for his answer to the Bishop of Llandaff) he said, that being chiefly conversant with the *vituperative* authors, he had naturally fallen into," &c. &c. Lord Maynard was the person who said about the House of Commons, "Is that going on still?" Talleyrand on the Thames (?) with —— and ——; the former exceedingly jealous of his attentions to Madame, and at last

asking him, "If the boat was to be upset, which of the two he would try to save?" Talleyrand looking courteously at her, answered "*Mais vous, Madame, vous savez nager.*" Anecdote of the King of Prussia (Frederick) asking, "Who is this Hyder Ali?" and Elliot (I think it was) answering pointedly, "*Un vieux despote militaire, qui a pillé tous ses voisins et qui commence à radoter.*" Frederick saying to some English general (?), "Could any regiment of yours of the same number of men perform such a feat?" "I don't know, Sire (was the answer), but half the number would try." Went with Crabbe into Rogers's room, and had a long conversation. Tried again to get something out of Crabbe relative to Burke, but he evidently remembers nothing of him, Crabbe never saw Lord Byron; they were both in the Sun Inn at Cambridge once together for a couple of days, without knowing it at the time.

After luncheon walked out with Rogers; a good deal of talk about Byron; took the following memorandums, of which some are intelligible only to myself. His capability of making others feel upon subjects on which he did not seem to feel much himself; such as scenery, the arts, &c. Was nine months at Pisa without ever seeing either the belfry or the baptistery (see Forsyth). The same peculiarity (R. says) existed in Madame de Stael. Though living so long at C  pet, she never saw the glaciers, nor any more of the scenery than what lay on the road between C  pet and Paris. In talking of B.'s being in love so early, R. said that Canova once told him that he (Canova) was in love at five years old. R.'s account of the old hag of a woman that was servant at Byron's lodgings in Benett Street. "When he moved to Albany, the first day I called upon him, the door was opened by the same old woman. "Why (said I to him), I thought she belonged to Benett Street, and that in getting rid of those lodgings you also got rid of the hag." "Why, yes," said Byron, "but the poor old devil took such an interest in me, that I did not like to leave her behind me." Well, in two or three years afterwards Byron was married, had a fine house in Piccadilly, two carriages, &c. &c. I called one day and (the two carriages and all the servants being out) the same old woman appeared at the door, dressed out very smart, with a new

gown and a new wig. Was once going out of the Opera or some Assembly with Byron, and a link boy lighted them along, saying, "This way, my Lord, this way." "Why, how does he know you are a Lord?" said Rogers. "How does he know!" answered Byron, "every one knows it; I am deformed." His great shyness of women. * * * The day Lord B. read the "Edinburgh Review" on his early poems, drank three bottles of claret. Some friend coming in said, "Have you received a challenge?" After writing twenty lines of the satire, got better; after a few more lines, better still. Must not forget the dinner at Lord Holland's in Pall Mall. * * * Rogers mentioned being with Byron at the church of the Santa Croce, and though there were Machiavel, Michael Angelo, and others to engage his attention, B. continued to stand before the tomb of Galileo, saying, "I have a pleasure in looking upon that monument; he was *one of us*," meaning noble. Talked of the first day R. had him to dine to meet me. R.'s consternation when he found that he would not eat or drink any of the things that were at the table; asked for biscuits, there were none; soda water, there was none; finished by dining on potatoes and vinegar. It was upon receiving a letter from Miss Millbank (in answer to one in which he said, that though her father and mother had often asked him to their house, she never had), containing the words, "I invite you," that he sent in his second proposal for her. Used not to dine with Lady B.; had a horror of seeing women eat; his habit of offering presents; giving Rogers the picture; had given it, in the same nominal way, to two or three other people. Mentioned the letter he wrote to Murray in consigning to him the remains of little Allegra: sent the invoice, "Received two packages; contents unknown," &c. &c. Directions about the place of burial; said *first*, under the tree, and then, "on second thoughts," in the doorway of the church. Must inquire of all this again from Drury. The objection to the original inscription being put was that the date proclaimed it to be a child born in adultery. (Is there any inscription now?) Took it into his head before he went abroad, that he had *not* sold the copyright of his works to Murray; reference made to Rogers, when it appeared that he *had* regularly sold them to him and his heirs for ever.

Same party at dinner with the exception of Crabbe. What the Prince de Ligne said to a person, who had been trying unsuccessfully to make a piece of water in his grounds, and who told him there had been a man drowned in it, *C'était un flatteur*. In talking of dogs a case mentioned, where a man going to bathe, left his clothes in care of his dog, but on his returning out of the water, the dog, not knowing him, would not give them up again. Spoke of "Boswell's Johnson:" Boswell asking him about some passage in Pope, "What does he mean by it?" "I don't know, sir; I suppose he meant to vex some one."* Boswell complaining of the noise of the company, the day before, making his head ache. "No, sir; it was not the noise that made your head ache, it was the sense we put into it." "Has sense that effect on the head?" "Yes, sir, on heads not used to it." Boswell mentions Johnson saying to him one night when they were sleeping in the same room and conversing, "If you don't stop talking, sir, I will get up and tie you to the bedpost." "I mention this (adds Boswell) to show the faculty he had of placing his adversary in a ridiculous position." Dunning once being asked how he contrived to get through his business, answered, "I do a little; a little does itself; and the rest is undone." Fazakerley mentioned that he was in company with Talleyrand and Pozzo di Borgo the evening the account of Buonaparte's death arrived (I, myself, dined in company with Pozzo di Borgo that day). Talleyrand frequently said, in speaking of him, *Homme prodigieux*. Pozzo and Napoleon were brought up together, but afterwards quarrelled; they belonged to the two opposite factions by which Corsica has always been agitated, and in which, it is said, the old Madame Mere took, to the last, more interest than in all the grandest affairs of Europe. Forgot to mention, as an instance of the treacherousness of the memory, that Rogers mentioned to me, among the remarkable things he remembered of Lord Byron, that it was he who came to him the evening of Percival's assassination to inform him of the event, whereas (as I soon brought to his recollection) it was I that called upon him that evening with the intelligence, and found him sitting with Words-

worth and Sir George Beaumont, who had dined with him. I rather think both our stories are true. Lord L. pressed me either to stay over to-morrow, or to come on Monday; engaged for the latter day to the Heneages, but he prevailed upon me to sit down and write them an excuse, Rogers and Mr. Grenville (he said) meaning also to stay over Monday.

28th. Found that Rogers and Mr. Grenville are to be off to-morrow morning; resolved to recall my apology to the Heneages, and, though pressed with much *douce violence* to stay over to-day, got away, and walked through a most desperate storm home. A very civil letter from Lord Shrewsbury (whom I never saw in my life) regretting that he was not apprised of my late visit to Derbyshire, as he should have been happy to "pay his homage to genius and patriotism," and expressing a hope to see me at Alton when I should next be in that neighbourhood.

29th. Lady Elizabeth called for me to take me to Heneage's; found that the Heneages had been puzzled by my two notes, and thought the apology had been written last. Slept there.

30th. Found Miss Scott employed in copying out for me an air of Spohr's, which I admired; a pretty girl. Left, with the Fieldings, between eleven and twelve. Found that Hobhouse is at Methuen's. Wrote to him a few days ago about the papers he promised me, and expressed a wish for the very sort of opportunity of conversing with him which his visit now so near me supplies. Lady E. offered, if I would come to her to-morrow, to take me over to call at Methuen's.

Nov. 1st. Walked over to Laycock, intending to proceed with either Lady E. or Fielding to Methuen's, but found they had gone to Bath, and the girls told me they had understood Hobhouse was gone. Returned home to dinner, found — in much anxiety and fuss, having posted off to me, on hearing of Lord L.'s appointment to the lieutenancy of the county, to beg I would put in a word for his being made clerk to the lieutenancy. Promised that I would see Lord L. on the subject in the morning.

2nd. Went to Bowood immediately after breakfast. Saw Lady L.; mentioned — to her. Lord L. afterwards came in, and when I expressed sorrow for interrupting him from business, said, "It is rather a pleasanter inter-

* The passage was, I think,

"Let modest Foster, if he will, excel
Ten metropolitans in preaching well."

ruption than one which I have just had." "What is that?" "A man coming post from Salisbury to ask to be made clerk of the lieutenancy." "Why, that's the very business I'm come upon." Not able to decide any thing yet upon the subject, being himself totally unacquainted with the nature of the office. On my expressing my pleasure at his appointment to the lord lieutenancy, he said, "Why, it is an addition of trouble, and I think I have accepted it, as I did the other office, more to please other people's opinions and wishes than my own." Said, if I would wait a quarter of an hour for him, he would walk part of the way home with me; did so. Talked of the difficulties before him with respect to Ireland; a requisition for the Insurrection Act already from the magistrates of Tipperary; but, unless the disturbance seems likely to spread, is quite against acceding to the demand. The Roman Catholics, if they should ask him to present their petition this session, will readily do it, but neither wishes to do it, nor to avoid it. I said it often occurred to me that he might, at no distant period, make a good ground for resigning, by taking some strong and decisive step on this question. "I must do nothing (he answered) for my own convenience, that is likely to injure the question itself, which that might do." I said, however, that I thought more good might be done to the cause by breaking off thus with *éclat*, than by remaining in, perhaps, inefficiently. Told me the manner Canning was thwarted by his colleagues at the time of the invasion of Spain by the French, that messages were sent underhand, "and from the highest authority," to the French court, telling them to persevere, and that the English nation would not oppose them. When he had walked with me nearly home, I turned back and accompanied him beyond Cuff's Corner. Begged me to come and dine with them before they go to town; fixed Sunday.

4th. Went to church at Bessy's particular request; would go oftener but for the singing. Towards dinner walked over to Bowood; met the Fieldings coming from it; told me that Hobbhouse did not leave the Methuens till yesterday, and Fielding dined there to meet him the day before. No one at dinner, but us three, Lord and Lady L., and myself. Sat a good while with him in conversation after dinner,

the evening altogether very agreeable. On my asking him whether he thought Lord Althorpe, Milton, &c. were continuing staunch to the present state of things, he said, "Yes, he believed, as far as they *ought*; that it was *right* they should keep, to a certain degree, a distrustful watch on the government." Such is the fair and candid tone of his mind on every subject, and there is nothing more to be admired, because there is nothing so rare. Pointed out to me (as just and well put) the remarks of Hallam on the situation of William after his accession to the throne, and the sort of reaction which always takes place against new governments from the over expectation that had been beforehand attached to them. Seemed to feel how applicable these remarks were to the present order of things. In talking of the close *rapprochement* which long-lived individuals establish between distant periods of history, he said, as an instance, that he himself had been acquainted with Sir Edward Baynton, who knew Sir Stephen Fox, who had been on the scaffold with Charles I. I mentioned, as another instance, William Spencer having, when a boy, played on the sofa with his grandfather Lord Vere, who had done the same thing (played on a sofa), when a boy, with Charles II. Lord L. remarked how curious it was to think that, by this sort of *links*, the number of *persons* necessary to carry tradition down from the time of Adam to the present day might all be contained with ease in the room we sat in, calculating them at a rough guess, about seventy persons. As an instance of confusion between history and romance, he mentioned some old lady, who always used to be talking of Sir Charles Grandison, having persuaded herself that she had known him and danced with him when a young girl. In talking of the probable line that Lords Althorpe, &c. might take, I hinted that it would be still more desirable to anticipate, by a well managed break-off from the Ministry, such a state of things as would leave him unsupported by those who formerly acted with him. "This must depend (he answered) upon whether I think them right or wrong in their reasons for withdrawing their support." "Very true," I replied, "but I own I should be sorry to see such a schism take place. Slept at Bowood.

5th. Lord L. proposed to walk with me,

and came as far as the lodge of Spy Park, where I wanted to pay a visit to Starkey. Soon after my arrival at home, Methuen came. * * * brought me a poem of his own "To the Sea;" wonderful from him, and good from any body; it tells, however, but little for the art itself. Made me promise to arrange with Bowles for a dinner soon at Corsham.

6th to 8th. At home, and at work. Have sent to Power this last week, a sketch of a trio, "Steal gently, my dear," from an air given me by the Fieldings. A note from Lady Elizabeth to claim my promise of meeting Lord Auckland and his sister, who come on Friday (the 9th), and go away next day.

9th. Walked over to Laycock; met the carriage on its way to fetch me. No one at dinner but Lord A. and his sister. Delighted with their tour in Ireland, and full of commiseration for the ill-used Paddies. Said that W. Scott did not seem to have left any very favourable impression behind him in Ireland; but there is no trusting some of my Whig friends about Scott; they have such a horror of his politics. Lord A. renewed his promise of communicating to me during the next parliamentary campaign any anecdotes he might pick up that could be turned to account in the way of squibs.

10th. The Aucklands started after breakfast for Lady Ilchester's. Lady Elizabeth proposed that I should go with her to make a visit to the Lockes: did so. On the way a good deal of talk about —, whom Lady E. saw a good deal of at one time. Lord Byron *did* endeavour to make her think that he had murdered some one: never would give her his right hand; wore a glove on it, &c. &c. This at first alarmed —, but when she came to know him better she saw through his acting. * * * Must inquire more about this. The Lockes not at home. Set me down on my way back. Dined at home. Lady E. described to me Byron's house at Genoa, the Albaro, which she visited, and brought away a sprig of arbor vitæ out of the garden as a souvenir. Lady Westmoreland lived in it after Byron. *Crede Byron* on all the beds.

27th. Went to Bath to hear Pasta, Bessy with the Napiers and I with Bowles. Bowles spoke (for the first time I ever heard him acknowledge it) of his famous song; wrote it when he was about twenty. Said how odd it

appeared to him many years afterwards to met with L., one of his boon companions of that time, as Vice-Chancellor of Oxford; become a grave and staid personage, never making the slightest allusion to their early doings, but seeming to have forgotten even the possibility of them. Found Anastasia with a little cold, and thought it prudent not to take her to the concert as we intended. Dined with Bowles at the White Hart; paid my share of the dinner and a pint of Madeira, but allowed the rich poet to treat me to a bottle of claret. Called for Bessy and Elizabeth Starkey at Miss Fisher's in the evening, and proceeded to the concert. Pasta very charming, as usual, but "shorn of her beams" when not acting.

28th. Bessy set off home, having refused to dine with the Fieldings, whither Bowles and I proceeded. Met Lord Duncan in Bath, who was all kindness, and expressed a great wish that I should come and dine with him some day. Called for Mrs. Bowles at Hartham, and arrived at Laycock about five. No one but ourselves; very agreeable. Music with the girls in the evening. Slept there.

29th. Fielding and the girls walked part of the way home with me. Found a letter from Hobhouse, accounting for the long delay of his answer by the circumstance of *my* letter having lain at his lodgings all the time he was absent.

30th. Wrote to Hobhouse, saying that if I had been (which I feared very much) unfortunate or troublesome to him on the subject of Byron, I begged he would forgive me, and I would plague him no further; that it was possible some expressions of mine relative to his kindness, &c., might have been construed by Barry and others into a boast of his sanction and co-operation, but that it was by no means my intention to produce such an impression, and that I would do my utmost to remove it; that, indeed, the simple fact of my work being likely to appear without a single contribution of either paper or anecdote from any one of Lord B.'s immediate friends or relatives, would, of itself, sufficiently absolve them from any share of the responsibility attached to it. The only favour, I said, which I had now to ask of him was, that he would endeavour to procure for me the letters of mine addressed to Lord Byron in Italy. This I should consider a real service, and with many thanks for all his kind intentions toward me, wishes, &c. &c.

December 2nd. At work. Sent off to Power lately words to an air of Spohr's "Rose of the Desert."

3rd. To Bath, having promised Anastasia (who was disappointed of it the other evening) that she should hear Pasta to-night; had also promised to dine with Crawford. Walked to Buckhill, where the Bowleses took me up. The people at the York House told me that Pasta had begged them to inform her when I should arrive, but it was now too late. Took Anastasia to dinner at Crawford's: company, Capt. A'Court and a Miss Broderick. Performance at the theatre, a scene out of "Tancredi," and the last act of the "Romeo." My little girl delighted with Pasta.

4th. Between twelve and one started with the Bowleses, who set me down at Buckhill, from whence I walked home.

5th. At home. Sent off to Power words to an air of Carelli, "Come, list, while I tell of the Heart-wounded Stranger." Forgot to mention that I also sent him lately words to a Spanish air, "Tell me, kind Seer, I pray Thee."

6th. Walked over to Laycock to dinner: company; Lord Caernarvon and Lady Harriet. Music in the evening. Slept there.

7th. A good deal of conversation with Lord Caernarvon after breakfast on the present appearance of politics. Is not at all pleased with the state of the Ministry; the supremacy of Lord Goderich, the powerless position of Lord Lansdowne, and the hostility of Lord Grey, all appear to him full of distrust and discouragement. Nothing, he said, but his attachment to Lord Lansdowne, and the conviction he felt of the honesty of his motives, could induce him to continue his adhesion to such a government. Spoke of the impolicy of their not trying to conciliate Lord Grey, on the first appearance of his discontent, when it would have been easy, he thinks, if not to win him over, at least to neutralise him. Lord Holland, he said, told him that he himself had gone twice to Lord Grey's house at that time for this purpose, but unluckily did not find him, and, immediately after, Lord Grey left town. What was wanted now, among other things, was somebody that could manage and (when necessary) *bully* the King. Lord Liverpool, with all his kingly propensities, could do this upon occasion; but it could not be expected from Lord Goderich. The King, in fact, has it all

his own way. Lady Elizabeth very anxious that Mrs. Moore should come and dine here on Monday. Said I should make her, if I could. Passed the whole day in conversation and music, and very reluctantly came away between three and four to dine at Dr. Starkey's; Bessy, who went yesterday to Buckhill, having come from thence also to dinner. * * *

9th. A note from Anastasia to say that the measles had appeared in the school. Alarmed not a little by this intelligence from the unfavourable time of the year, and the still delicate state of our dear girl's health. Decided to bring her home immediately, and having sent for a chaise, Bessy set off with little Buss for Bath between twelve and one. Between three and four had a visit from Fielding and Lord Auckland, bringing a note from Lady Elizabeth begging that I would return with them to dinner; could not however. Sat some time with me; talked of politics. Lord A. thinks it not unlikely that we may see Lord Lansdowne in his proper place of Premier yet. Forgot to mention, by the bye, a good anecdote which Lord A. wrote down to the Fieldings some weeks since. Lord Dudley, it is well known, has a trick of rehearsing over to himself, in an under tone, the good things he is about to *debiter* to the company, so that the person who sits next to him has generally the advantage of his wit before any of the rest of the party. The other day, having a number of the foreign ministers and their wives to dine with him, he was debating with himself whether he ought not to follow the continental fashion of leaving the room with the ladies after dinner. Having settled the matter he muttered forth in his usual soliloquizing tone, "I think we must *go out* all together." "Good God! you don't say so!" exclaimed Lady—, who was sitting next him, and who is well known to be the most anxious and sensitive of the Lady Whigs with respect to the continuance of the present Ministry in power. "Going out all together" might well alarm her. [A man once (not very remarkable for agreeableness) proposed to walk from the House of Commons to the Travellers' Club with Lord Dudley, who discussing the proposal mentally (as he thought) with himself, said audibly, "I don't think it will bore me *very* much to let him walk with me that distance."] On another occasion, when he gave somebody a seat in his

carriage from some country house, he was overheard by his companion, after a fit of thought and silence, saying to himself, "Now, shall I ask this man to dine with me when we arrive in town?" It is said that the fellow-traveller, not pretending to hear him, muttered out in the same sort of tone, "Now, if Lord Dudley should ask me to dinner, shall I accept his invitation?" Bessy arrived with Anastasia, who seemed pretty well, except for a cold in the head.

10th. Bessy doubtful whether she should go to Laycock to-day, but Anastasia showing no appearance of measles, thought she might as well. At three the Fieldings' carriage came for us, and Bessy, Mrs. Napier, and myself set off in it. No one at dinner but ourselves. Lady E. more than usually agreeable, and full of the most marked kindness to Bessy, which, with me, goes further than ages of kindness to myself. A good deal of music in the evening. Slept there.

11th. Music again after breakfast; came away in their carriage about two. Found, on arriving at home, thirteen covers of Hobhouse's, inclosing the letters which I had asked him for, and which he had, contrary to his expectation, he says, found among some papers deposited at Kinnaird's. Returns to the subject of my unlucky remark upon him in one of my letters to Byron. "However," he says, "I forgive you; but, in the true spirit of the Gospel, I will heap coals of fire on your laurelled head by telling you an anecdote. Gamba's memoir of Lord B.'s last residence in Genoa was put into my hand, and therein I found it recorded that when Lord B. was in Cephalonia, he received a letter from you, in which you said something that incensed him very much; so much that, after various threats, he said he would write a satire against you. I struck my pen across this story, and requested Gamba not to let it appear." * * *

13th and 14th. Anastasia in the measles, full of anxiety about the dear child, but they appear as yet of a very mild sort. * * *

16th. My dearest girl going on as favourably as we could desire. Dr. Brabant thinks she is over the worst of it. Sent Power this last week the legend of "The Hunter," "The Hunter once in this Shade reclined."

17th to 19th. Employed in reading and collecting notices for my "Life of B." Have re-

solved not to attempt a regular biography, but to call it "Letters and Journals of Lord Byron, with Biographical Illustrations (or Notices of his Life), by T. M." Received a letter from Corry, inclosing one he had just got from the Chief Justice Bushe, on the subject of my article in the "Edinburgh," "Private Theatricals." The following is an extract: "I have already read, with much gratification, the entire article you refer me to. So much curious information, conveyed in a manner so fascinating, leaves little doubt as to that hand which *nullum quod tetigit non ornavit*, at least, only as much as Erasmus felt when, after reading a work of his times, he exclaimed something to this effect, *Aut Morus, aut Diabolus*. As to you, I must congratulate you upon that high pedigree by which private theatricals have been traced from a remote antiquity through kings, queens, popes, bishops, nuns, beauties, &c. &c. to my Kilkenny friends. Certainly you may say of the profession (if you will now submit to so humble a name for your high calling) what, in an old ballad, was formerly sung of something else, which I now forget —

"If it wasn't dainty,
The ladies wouldn't have it;
If it wasn't saintly,
The clergy wouldn't crave it."

20th. Sent Power a "Legend," "The Indian Boat." Received an answer from Barnes to a proposal I sent him last week, that his brother proprietors should give me 200*l.* for half the number of things I furnished them with last year. Most readily accepted. Answered an application from the Secretary of the Royal Institution, communicating the wish of the directors that I should lecture there this year; said that my present occupations would prevent my from complying with their request.

21st and 22nd. At home, reading, &c. &c.

23rd. Walked over to Bowood. Lord L. arrived last night; asked me to come and dine to-morrow. The Foxes there. Met Fielding on my way back, full of *doléances* on the state of the Ministry.

24th. Walked to Bowood late. Company at dinner, Charles and Mrs. Fox, Misses Vernon and Fox, and Major Keppel, Lord Albemarle's son. A good deal of talk with Lord L. in the evening. On my remarking that Barnes, I believed (as well as other of his (Lord L.'s) friends) wished him well out of his

present connexion, he said. "Yes, yes, but it would never do to give up at a moment like this when there are such difficulties to be faced. So far from it, that were I even to be left alone in office, I would sooner hold all the seals of all the departments, if that were possible, than resign at a juncture so full of difficulty as the present." Mentioned, with surprise, the extraordinary information the "Times" contrives to get; thinks there must be somebody else besides — to give it them, as they sometimes show a knowledge of things that — himself could not have been acquainted with. They do incalculable mischief by these disclosures, and *have* done so very lately. Slept there. Danced to the Chippenham band in the hall after dinner.

25th. * * * Lord L. proposed to walk part of the way home with me; and, between twelve and one, he and I and Keppel started together.

26th. Walked into Devizes to get some money. Called upon Brabant. Found, when I returned, that Lord John Russell, Kerry, and Keppel had been while I was out.

27th. An invitation from Lady Lansdowne to Bessy to dine at Bowood on Monday and go with her to Mrs. Heneage's ball. After a long discussion with the dear girl, in which I in vain endeavoured to persuade her to get a new gown for the occasion, she consented to go if I would allow her to go in the old one, which, she assured me, was quite good enough for a poor poet's wife. Took her answer (accepting the invitation) to Bowood, where I dined. Same party as before.

28th. Lord John and Keppel walked home with me, and sat some time with Bessy. Saw them back again a great part of the way. Met Lady L., who wished me to come to dinner on Sunday next, but I offered to-morrow instead. Lord L. off to town this morning. Dined at home. Lord John, in speaking of the unambitious spirit Lord L. has shown, said, "After all, it is a fine thing for a man to have taken such a plain, honest, and disinterested course as leaves him, so far as he himself is concerned, no fear or anxiety with respect to the result. If Lord L. was occupied, like others, in little efforts and intrigues of ambition, we should not see him so unembarrassed, and in such cheerful spirits." This is all most true and just.

29th. Dined at Bowood. The Macdonalds added to the party. Told some Irish stories after dinner that made them laugh. Heard Lady Macdonald sing in the evening for the first time, some German things; very pretty. Sang a good deal myself.

30th. After breakfast Lord John and C. Fox walked with me; the former left us half-way to go back to prayers, and Fox came on with me. Staid some time with me at the cottage.

31st. Bessy decided to go: carriage came for us between three and four to take us to Bowood; Abercromby added to the party at dinner. Set out for the ball a little after nine; Bessy with Lady Lansdowne, &c. &c., and I with I forget whom. The whole thing very splendid, and my sweet Bess (though sadly under-dressed for the occasion) looking very handsome, and enjoying it all as much as if she were covered with diamonds. By a change in the arrangements for returning, Lord Kerry was to be taken home by us; waited for him till near four. Bessy danced a country-dance with Lord Kerry. Did not get to our beds at Bowood till just six.

1828.

JANUARY 1st, 1828. Down to breakfast between ten and eleven. Lady Lansdowne and Lady Elizabeth all kindness to Bessy. Left Bowood for home in the carriage before one.

3rd. Russell in the measles. A note from Lady Lansdowne expressing her hopes that Bessy, Anastasia, and Tom, would be able to come to her dance to-night; offering beds to all. Lord Kerry also called with a message to the same purport; but Bessy unable to leave Russell, and Anastasia forbid by Brabant. In the evening, half-past seven, the carriage came for me and Tom, who was as happy as a prince. Rather a small ball, but very agreeable. Caroline Fielding looking very pretty, dressed in the costume of a Roman peasant-girl, and her sister as a Swiss *paysanne*. Danced with the former: danced also with Mrs. Fox, Miss Ricardo, &c. Had received a note from Lady Elizabeth in the morning, asking me to dine to-morrow, but Lady L. insisted that I must come to Bowood, as it was to be the last day of their company. After a good deal of playful contest on the subject, agreed to dine at

Bowood. At half-past one the carriage was ready to take Tom and me home; Tom not at all understanding why we should go before the dancing was over.

4th. Walked to Bowood to dinner: company, Lord Duncan, Elwyn, the Macdonalds, &c. Miss Fox, in speaking to me of the extracts she had seen from Hunt's book, said she quite agreed with him as to my cordial, "Yes." Sang a good deal in the evening.

5th. After breakfast Lord L. walked home with me: much conversation about his position and prospects in the Ministry. On my mentioning the opinions of some persons, who regretted that he did not assert his own claims to the station he ought to hold, he said with earnestness, "I cannot be ambitious." Talked of the early information the "Times" had of the first resignation of Lord Goderich; thinking where they could have got it.

10th. A note from Lady Lansdowne to say that Lord L. had started for town in the morning, and bid her tell me ("what he knew would give me pleasure"), that the administration was virtually broken up, in consequence of a difference about the Finance Committee, and that the Duke of Wellington had been sent for to Windsor. Walked over to Laycock. Found they knew nothing about the matter, and therefore attributed the hopes I expressed as to the breaking up of the administration to some hints which I said had been sent me from town. Went to dine at Joy's; Fielding, Talbot, Montgomery, and myself. Company besides, the Poulett Scropes, the Bowleses, &c. Returned to sleep at Laycock.

11th. My pretended speculations confirmed by the arrival of the "Times." Fielding gave me a letter to his housemaid in town to have his bedroom and study ready for me, in case I go to London first. Walked home, and with much difficulty, from the extreme slipperiness of the snow; took near twenty minutes getting up Bowden Hill, and was as tired on my arrival home as if I had walked twenty miles.

14th. A note from Lady Lansdowne to say that Lord L. was expecting a letter of congratulation from me. Wrote to him. Preparing for my departure to-morrow.

15th. Left home in a chaise for Bath between two and three; Prowse went with me: a starting horse in our chaise that was once or twice near upsetting us; some delay from this.

The snow falling rapidly. Dined at Lord Duncan's: company, Elwyn, Sir W. K. Grant and his wife, the Kays, Sir Hutton Cooper, &c. A good deal of talk with Lady Grant about Lord and Lady Hastings. Music in the evening; two young ladies sang, and *anche Io*. Grant asked me for to-morrow, but Elwyn had already engaged me to—I don't know who. Slept at the York House.

16th. Desperate day. Called on a second-hand bookseller, with whom Bessy has some negotiation for exchange of wares, being about to barter some bran-new poetry which I have given her (all presentation copies, and most of them, alas! uncut) for some second-hand literature of a better quality. Fancied myself unknown, but was wofully undeceived when the poor man asked me, with much humility, to hear and pass sentence on a singing daughter he had got, and on whom he had laid out much more money than he could well afford, to accomplish her for a public performer. Took me up to a small wretched room, where in two seconds the young lady was at the pianoforte. Praised her playing, which I could with a clear conscience. Called upon the Crawfords, who expressed themselves disappointed at my not having taken up my quarters with them. Walked about with Elwyn and then with Lord Ashtown. Dined at a Mr. Watson's (I believe) a friend of Elwyn's, with whom and Dr. Crawford I went. Company, Ellis, Col. Page, &c. &c. Went afterwards to the theatre; joined Lord and Lady Duncan in their box, and was rather amused.

17th. Off in the coach for Birmingham; a naval captain, one of my companions, amused me with an account of the *saintly* part of his profession, and of the mischief they do in the navy. On my arrival at Birmingham found a letter from Wildman, to whom I had written to know whether he was at Newstead, and disposed to receive me for a day or two. His answer most hospitably in the affirmative. Slept at the Albion.

18th. Set off at nine for Nottingham; found my old neighbour Flack, of Cavendish Bridge, and Phipps (the husband of Dr. Parkinson's niece) to be my fellow travellers; our journey agreeable. From the late thaw and rain the waters everywhere out: Tewkesbury like a seaport town, and at Tamworth the water up to the body of the coach. Anecdote of New-

ton, showing his extreme absence: inviting a friend to dinner and forgetting it: the friend arriving, and finding the philosopher in a fit of abstraction. Dinner brought up for *one*: the friend (without disturbing Newton) sitting down and dispatching it, and Newton, after recovering from his reverie, looking at the empty dishes and saying, "Well, really, if it wasn't for the proof before my eyes, I could have sworn that I had not yet dined." In passing through Donington sent up to Dalby's, and he and Mary came down to the inn. Arrived at the White Lion at Nottingham a little after five, and finding no note or message from Alfred Fellowes, to whom I had announced my coming, dined at the inn. Dressed after dinner and went to the Circus, but found it, from the dirt and darkness, intolerable, and betook myself to the Fellowes, whom I found in most good-natured consternation at my having taken up my abode at the inn, a bed being ready for me at their house these two days past. Slept at the White Lion.

19th. Walked about the town with Alfred Fellowes: Lord Raneliffe engaged at home with a shooting party. Visited the reading-room and library, &c. Told me that when Gally Knight was first introduced to old Dr. Denman, the Doctor said, "I have had the pleasure of seeing Mr. Knight before." "I do not remember (rejoined Gally) having ever had the honour of meeting you." "The truth is, young gentleman," said Denman, "I was the first person that *ever* saw you." Received a most sweet and touching letter from my affectionate Bessy, in which, alluding to a sort of will I had written in the last page of this journal before I left home, she says it has haunted her uncomfortably ever since we parted, and that she regrets having asked to see it. Between three and four started in a chaise for Newstead; very kindly received by the Wildmans. No one at dinner with them but her sister and his cousin Richard. Gave me some port which, he said, had been put in the cellar (as he understood) the day Lord Byron came of age. Mentioned many curious particulars of his school days with Byron, which I have noted down elsewhere.

20th. After prayers had some conversation with Nanny Smith (an old woman long employed about Byron's family), of which I took notes. Mrs. Byron's death hastened by a fit

of passion, into which she was thrown by read-Brothers's (the upholsterer's) bills. Company at dinner: General Need and his wife, and the Fellowes. Singing in the evening.

21st. Had some conversation, after breakfast, with Rushton (the Robin of "Childe Harold"), who now is master of a free-school some miles off. Gave me two letters of B.'s, confirming what Nanny had told me of Lord B. having sparred with him (Rushton) during the time of his mother's funeral. Set out, the whole party, to see the church at Hucknall, the Wildmans riding, and I in an open carriage with the sister and Mrs. Fellowes. Told me of the immense concourse of people there were at the funeral; the man who joined it near Hucknall having the appearance of a half-pay officer who had served much abroad; his profound grief; nobody seemed to know who he was. Fletcher also loud in his sobs during the whole time. Hardly any person of respectability attended, except Raneliffe and a few of the corporation. When we arrived at Hucknall the clerk could not be found, nor the key of the church. At Mrs. Wildman's suggestion took a pane out of one of the windows, and by this means opening it, put a little boy in, who opened the door for us. During all this time I felt but little affected by our visit, but suddenly, as I stood over the vault where he lies, the picture of what he *had* been, and what he was *now*, presented itself to me, and at once a sort of flood of melancholy feeling came over my heart, which it was with difficulty I could conceal from those around me. Wrote our names in the book of the visitors, where it was curious to observe how many signatures there were of persons in humble station, weavers, &c. Walked back with Richard Wildman by Annesley, an interesting old place; the terrace; the hall thought to be the "Oratory" of the "Dream." The Pearsons from Nottingham to dinner-Music in the evening.

22nd. Set out for Southwell in Wildman's carriage, accompanied by Pearson, who was to be my introducer. Drove to the Rev. J. Beach-er's (Byron's old friend), and found him at home. Asked us to dinner, which was what I speculated upon. Told me some anecdotes of B.'s early days, of which I have taken notes. Showed me a few letters, the others in his possession not being, he said, producible. Took me to call on Mrs. and Miss Pigot, who

were equally friends of Byron in his youth. Their reception of me most cordial and flattering; made me sit in the chair which Byron used to sit in, and remarked as a singularity that this was the poor fellow's birthday; he would to-day have been forty. Produced a number of his early letters and poems, and without the least reserve offered any or all for my use, offering to copy out for me such as I should select. Deferred the reading of them till we should meet in the evening at Mr. Beacher's. On parting with Mrs. Pigot, a fine intelligent old lady, who has been bedridden for years, she kissed my hand most affectionately, and said that, much as she had always admired me as a poet, it was as the friend of Byron that she valued and loved me. Her affection, indeed, to his memory is unbounded, and she seems unwilling to allow that he had a single fault. No one at dinner but Mr. B., his daughter, Pearson, and myself. Miss Pigot in the evening with his letters, which interested me exceedingly; some written when he was quite a boy, and the bad spelling and scrambling handwriting delightful; spelling, indeed, was a very late accomplishment with him. After reading the letters we had music, and as there was no lack of enthusiasm in my audience, I sung my best. Slept at the inn.

23rd. Took an opportunity, before starting, of seeing the cathedral and its brass eagle, which was found at Newstead Abbey, and is now converted into a reading-desk. Some time after it had been found, an opening in the breast of the bird was discovered, and a number of papers found hid within, which proved to be the original writings of the various grants made to the abbey. Wildman has some of these in his possession, and one of them contains a full pardon granted to the monks for every possible crime (and the whole catalogue of crimes is gone through) that had ever been committed, or was likely in future to be committed by them. Started at nine in the coach for Nottingham. On my arrival Mrs. Fellowes lent me her carriage to go to Colwich. Shown into the drawing-room, and told that Mrs. Musters would be with me presently. Felt (though I had never seen her) that I should like to take her by the hand as an old friend; and while I was debating whether it would be quite decorous to do so, she entered and did exactly so herself, giving me her

hand as if we had known each other for years. Her countenance, in spite of time and ill-health, still interesting, and took me more than that of her daughter, youthful as it is. But this was more the effect of imagination, which brought back the former face as it looked when Byron gazed at it. Had not time for much conversation before Musters himself joined us. Fixed to dine with them on Sunday the 4th. Dined at Mrs. Fellowes's; no company but the John Felloweses and Mrs. Burnside. Slept at the White Lion.

24th. Set off at half-past six in the coach for Stoke. At the first stage obliged to go outside in consequence of some mistake in the booking of passengers; a most blowing drive over the Derbyshire hills. Found Mrs. Arkwright, Mrs. J. Cooper, and Hodgson waiting for me at the mill, and walked up with them to the house. Before luncheon Mrs. A. whispered to me that there was a lady in her house as governess, who met me many, many years ago, and as she knew it would annoy her, if I did not recognise her, she thought it right to prepare me. This was a Mrs. —, whom I saw for one evening (and about half an hour next morning) near five-and-twenty years ago; whom I danced with, sung to, and made love to in that short space of time, and who has been a sort of dream to me ever since. Was sorry to see her again; her beauty was gone; her dress was even prematurely old and mobcappish, and, in short, I'm sorry we have met again, for she will never be a dream to me any more. The only company at dinner the Hodgsons, Mrs. J. Cooper, and her son and daughter. In the evening, singing, and the best and most touching of all singing, Mrs. R. Arkwright's.

25th. Mrs. Arkwright, who has been full of anxiety as to my finding Hodgson in a mood to give me the assistance I want from him, put us, after breakfast, in a little room together; where he, with the utmost readiness and kindness, placed a number of Byron's letters in my hand, as well as extracts from others of a more confidential nature; and left me alone to look over them, and select such as might suit my purpose. After I had done so, had some conversation with him relative to Byron's loan or gift to himself, of which I did not conceal from him that I already knew most of the particulars. Detailed to me the whole transaction; Byron's having long promised to do something

for him; his taking him to Hammersley's one day, without H. having the slightest idea of what he was going about, and then telling Hammersley to place to his (Hodgson's) credit 1000*l.*: had already had from him 400*l.*, part of which though was for another friend. He then described Byron's going with him to the mother of the girl he wished to marry (his present wife), in order to do away the objections that lady had to the marriage; their travelling all night. B.'s tractableness to criticism, but his horror of retaining any thing that had been suggested by others. "If you don't like it, say so, and I'll alter it; but don't suggest any thing of your own." Affixed a note to one of the extracts he gave me containing an acknowledgment of his gratitude to Lord B.; but on my seeming to think it too vague and insufficient (particularly as the nature of the service Lord B. had performed towards him was pretty generally known), he expressed himself most anxious to make the acknowledgment, not only "sufficient" but abundant. Left this matter for further consideration. Mrs. Arkwright, when I last saw her, mentioned a letter Lord B. had written to somebody on the subject of religion, and which Mrs. — had a copy of. Promised at that time to ask her for it: told me how she had learned from Mrs. — that it was already published. * * * Birch and a Mr. Middleton added to our company at dinner; the Miss Birches in the evening; and singing (both from Mrs. A. and myself) without end.

26th. After breakfast closeted with Hodgson for two or three hours on the subject of Byron; found none of the reserve in him that Mrs. A. apprehended, but the fullest cordiality and confidence. Walked with him afterwards to Middleton Dale; fine rock scenery; the Delf very grand. Mrs. J. Cooper and Eliza gone this morning, which was a sad loss to our party. Hodgson very agreeable at dinner; Mrs. A. said she had never before seen him so happy. He had determined upon going home before dinner (thinking it right that a clergyman should pass his Saturday evening at home), but was prevailed on to stay till night. Some amusing stories of Scrope Davies. His epitaph on Lord L—,

"Here's L.'s body, from his soul asunder,
He once was on the turf, and now is *under*."

His verses on the Swallow, a boat or yacht

they used to sail in. Two of them as follows:—

"If ever in the Swallow, I to sea
Shall go again, may the sea swallow me."

Forgot to mention that Montgomery the poet was asked to come (from Sheffield) yesterday to dinner with a Dr. —, who dined here, but refused, from rather an over-delicate scruple with respect to me. It appears he once wrote a very violent attack either on myself or my poetry, which, though he is quite sure I knew nothing about it (as is really the case) makes him feel not altogether justified in meeting me till I am apprised of the circumstance. Anxious as I had been before to make his acquaintance, this, of course, increased my desire, and we were in great hopes, from the messages sent, that he would have come to day, but he did not. It seems he writes all those imaginative (and, some of them beautiful) things of his in one of the closest and dirtiest alleys in all dirty Sheffield. Has, lately, they say, issued some rather absurd speech or writing, in which he upholds this said Sheffield as little less than the Athens of England. This is what it is to be, the *Coryphée* of a set of provincial blues! After singing and singing over and over again, we saw Hodgson and his wife off in their chaise for Bakewell. My song, "And doth not a meeting like this!" brought tears from both singer and hearers.

27th. After breakfast set off to church (Bakewell) with Mrs. Arkwright. A good deal of conversation about the Duke of Devonshire; the great disposition he had to like me, though he did not, she says, at first; his having felt, as I did, the barrier there is between us, from his tallness and deafness combined. "Besides (he added), Moore is not the sort of man to stand on tip-toes to a duke." Hodgson's sermon very good. We again conquered his resolution, which was decidedly *not* to dine from home; but he yielded. Mrs. A., indeed, said that he seemed quite another person since I came. The dinner again very agreeable.

28th. When I was packing for my departure, Mrs. A., who had promised to let me have copies of some of her songs, sent me up her whole precious book, and said I might do what I pleased with it. Hodgson went down with me in the gig to the place where I was to meet the coach (his wife having put into my hands before I came away a paper, which she said I

might read at my leisure), and, after a most cordial parting, I started about twelve o'clock on my way for Newstead, Wildman (who is in town) having given me leave to return there for a few more inquiries among the old servants. Had written to the butler to apprise him of my coming, but arrived before my letter, and found every thing in a most monastery-like state of bloom and cheerlessness. The servants, however, partaking of the hospitable spirit of their master, soon lighted up good fires both in drawing-room and bed-room. Cold meat, cutlets, and good Madeira were my fare; and the quiet, thoughtful pleasure I enjoyed in passing an evening *alone* within those walls, was exactly what I anticipated it would be. I felt as if on a visit to Byron's spirit, and remembering his frequent threat, poor fellow, of appearing to me after his death, thought that I could hardly have given him a better opportunity. Found that the paper Mrs. Hodgson gave me contained some kind and flattering verses Hodgson had written on my visit and departure. Slept well, the repose of the whole evening being a relief to me after the state of excitement in which I had been keeping myself and—every body about me.

29th. Set off for Nottingham in the coach. Found letters, and before I had opened those from Bessy, was just boasting that every thing went on with me exactly as I could wish, when on reading their contents I found that our poor Anastasia's lameness had got so much worse, that Dr. Brabant advised her being taken instantly to town for surgical advice, and she was perhaps now on her way there. It is impossible to describe the sweetness, the considerateness, the fortitude that breathed through every line of my dearest Bessy's letter. Resolved to give up my dinner with the Musterses, and set out on Friday for town, the public dinner at Derby being an engagement I could not well get over. Received a letter too from Murray (sent on to me from the cottage), in which he says that the late book of Leigh Hunt has induced him to change his mind with respect to the publication of Lord Byron's papers, and that he has submitted a proposition to Mr. Rogers, which, he is authorised by him to say, meets with his entire approbation. Offers to come down to me in case I should not be immediately coming to town. Answered to say I should be in London in a few days.

Called upon R——, who had been sometime tutor to Lord Byron; have taken notes of what he told me. Went out with Fellowes to dine at Lord Raneliffe's: company, Dr. Holcombe and his son George, and an attorney, whose name I forget. Returned to Mrs. Fellowes's at night.

30th. Walked to Colwich to make my excuses to Mrs. Musters; away from home. Called with Pearson on various persons, who knew something of Byron. Set off in the coach at three for Derby: found a large party at Strutt's waiting dinner for me, had to dress in a hurry: company, the John Coopers, &c. &c. Music in the evening; sung a good deal. Got from Higginson the list of the toasts for my office of chairman to-morrow. Slept at Mr. Strutt's.

31st. Breakfasted in my bed-room, and took a few hours to myself to think over what I should say in my speeches to the Lancastrians. Walked about with the Coopers afterwards. The company at the dinner larger than ever they have had at any public dinner in Derby before; at least so they told me. About a hundred sat down, all good Whigs, I took for granted; good materials for Whigs, certainly, being chiefly dissenters, unitarians, Nottingham editors, &c. &c. Three long tables, and my chair at the top of the centre one placed with the back close to a large fire: should have melted away, had I remained in it, but abdicated, and joined Strutt at the head of one of the other tables, leaving my chair like Banquo's during dinner. All went off famously: made them about ten or twelve speeches, and was cheered most heartily throughout. My brother orators *not* such as it was difficult to eclipse; one of the "gentlemen of the press" talked of the duty of "heditors lifting up their voices." A party of amateurs sung glees occasionally between the speeches, and one of their performances being "The last Rose of Summer," the mayor, who sat on my right hand, confided to me in a whisper his regret that they should choose such *dull* things for such an occasion: told him I heartily agreed with him. Retired from the chair between ten and eleven, and adjourned (tired as I was, and covered not only with applauses but with fish-sauce) to a party at William Strutt's, where I found duets on the harp and pianoforte going on; and, in spite of my dozen and one

speeches, was obliged to muster up voice enough for the same number of songs. Slept at Joseph Strutt's. Had written an excuse to Mrs. Musters before I left Derby, but from letters received to-day from Bessy, thought it perhaps better to finish *all* I had to do in this neighbourhood before I joined her in town, the accounts of Anastasia being much more comfortable.

February 1st. Forgot to mention that I wrote to Hobhouse to Newstead, and being touched with a kindly spirit at the time towards everything connected with poor Byron, showed it in my letter. Have received an answer from him full of the same friendly feeling, which I rejoice at. Teased by Strutt and Higginson to give some sort of report of the speeches I made yesterday for the newspapers. Endeavoured in vain to convince them that *praise* (as much as they pleased) of the general effect, and silence as to the details, was always the sort of report that did most service to such speeches: they *would* have more: promised to sent it to them, if possible, from Nottingham. Set off before two in a chaise for Castle Donington, having written yesterday to tell the Dalbys I was coming. Wrote also to-day to Mrs. Musters to say, that if she was still disposed to have me on Sunday I would stay. Slept at Dalby's.

2nd. After breakfast walked over to Kegworth to see Dr. Parkinson; walked with him in his garden; will be eighty-three his next birthday. Saw me out of the town and called upon Mrs. Ingram in our way. She and her daughters accompanied me through the fields till we met the Dalby girls. Dinner at two; my company consisting of seven damsels (five of them young and pretty), Dalby being out on business. A very merry party: when I went upstairs to pack for departure, heard them in loud chorus below, and when I came down, found the seven nymphs standing, with bumpers in their hands round the table, and singing my own glee, "Hip, hip, hurrah!" to my health. Escorted by them all to the coach, in which I started at three for Nottingham. Found a note from Mrs. Musters, saying she should be most happy to see me on Sunday, and trusted I would stay at least over Monday. Dinner at Mrs. Fellowes's: Lord Rancliffe, Dr. Pemington, and the John Fellowses. Sung in the evening. A poem sent me by Mrs. Mus-

ters (written by a young friend of hers whom I am to meet to-morrow) with a request that I would read it before I come; subject, "Martin Luther." Slept at Mrs. Fellowes's.

3rd. Scribbled out, after breakfast, a few recollections of some of my Derby speeches, and dispatched them to Higginson. Walked to Colwich to dinner; a short conversation with Mrs. M. before we dined; Musters luckily from town. Evening rather dull; music (the usual resource) being *tabooed* of a Sunday.

4th. Some conversation with Mrs. M. after breakfast about Byron, most of which I have taken notes of. Sung a few songs, at some of which Mrs. M. cried.

5th. After breakfast some conversation with Mrs. M. Said it was certainly her wish, and she even thought it better for any little romance there might be in the story of her and Lord Byron, to let it end at the last time she ever saw him, which was when he dined at Annesley on his return from abroad, and wrote the poem that everybody knows, about the little girl. Promised her it should be so. Ordered her carriage and took me into Nottingham. On my mentioning Chalmers's "Devotional Exercises," and my wish to see it, she begged me not to buy it myself, but let her have the pleasure of sending me a copy. Got to Nottingham and parted with her at twelve. Called upon two or three people, and having lunched at Fellowes's started in the Hope coach between two and three. Arrived at Northampton at eleven at night and slept there.

6th. Off in the Sovereign coach, two young Irishmen my fellow-travellers; one of them rather an intelligent young man, a son of Col. Rochford. Begun to have a vague idea who I was, and talked to me about the "Epicurean," without (as he said afterwards) having any definite thought or expectation that I should turn out to be the person he suspected. This I could not, with a grave face, stand, and accordingly told him who I was, to his evident astonishment and pleasure. Arrived at Power's between six and seven, with a heart beating anxiously as I got nearer, lest I should find my dear Anastasia worse than Bessy had reported her. Found her lying on the sofa in the drawing-room, and looking better than when I left her. My darling Bessy, as usual, full of energy and cheerful hope, and has never left her side for a minute, except yesterday to

pay a short visit to the Villamils and the Donegals. Though the Powers had a bed for me, thought it better not to trespass too much on their kindness (which has been most cordial and useful on this occasion), but went off to Sandon's in Bury Street, and secured a bedroom there. Returned to supper at Power's.

7th. After breakfast walked out with Bessy. Called at Murray's, and heard in a few words (while Bessy waited for me in the street) his proposition, which was to place all the publishable parts of his Byron papers in my hands, and to give me 4000 guineas for the "Life." Told him that I considered this offer perfectly liberal, but that he knew how I was situated with the Longmans, and that I certainly could not again propose to take my work out of their hands without having it in my power to pay down the sum that I owe them. "They would, I suppose (he said) be inclined to give some accommodation in the payment?" "I cannot at all answer for that, Mr. Murray (I replied). I must have it in my power to offer them the payment of the debt." "Very well, sir (he said) you *may* do so." Went with Bessy to the jeweller's to buy a present for Dr. Brabant's daughter: bought a locket; four guineas and a half. As Brabant will not take any fees, I must, at least, try to show that we are grateful. Dined at Power's. Went with Bessy in the evening to her mother and sat some time.

8th. With Bessy after breakfast. Went on to the Longmans; told them of Murray's proposition, and of my conversation with him: on which Longman said, that, through the whole of the affair, my interest and advantage was what they chiefly regarded; that it certainly would be a subject of regret to them not being themselves the publishers of the "Life," and they felt that the public would be apt to think, that, in this new transfer of the work, they (the Longmans) were rather slightly treated; but still, notwithstanding all this, they were ready to own that with Murray was my natural position (on account of the materials he possessed) for bringing out a Life of Lord Byron, and that they not only acceded to the arrangement, but congratulated me on the prospect it afforded of getting me comfortably over all my difficulties; that as to the discharge of my debt to them, their impression was that, as they had paid the money

down to *me*, Murray, in stepping into their shoes, ought to do the same by them. Joined Bessy at the bazaar and drove about with her in a hackney coach, the rain making it impossible to walk. Settled every thing about beds for her and Anastasia at the Gloucester Coffee House. Dined at Power's: the Villamils came in the evening to take leave, and between eight and nine I had them off to the Gloucester Coffee House, Anastasia being safely lifted in and out of the hackney coach. Their bedroom very conveniently on the ground floor, and I slept on a sofa in the sitting-room adjoining. Mr. B. called upon Lord Lansdowne this morning, and had a good deal of conversation with him on the subject of the late break-up, and Huskisson's explanation at Liverpool.

9th. Up before six, had coffee, and saw my dear treasures safely off in the coach at seven, there being no other inside passengers. On my return home got to bed again for a little rest and warmth. Employed the day in making calls. Went to Murray's, and reported my conversation with the Longmans, with which he was quite pleased, and said the money should be ready for them in a few days. Dined at Lansdowne House.

10th. Went with Lady E. Fielding to make visits: left cards at several places; let in by Lady Grey, with whom I sat some time. Called upon the Hollands: she wanted me to stay and dine with Lord Holland, who is not at all well: met Brougham there: he and I came away together: said he had received a copy of the Derby paper with my speech about himself, for which he was very thankful.

11th. Went to the Longmans': told them what Murray had said about the payment of the money, which they said was quite right; and that point being conceded, they now would not press him for the money till quite convenient to him: nothing, indeed, could be more frank, gentlemanlike, and satisfactory, than the manner in which this affair had been settled on all sides. Dined at Lansdowne House. Young — and — remarking on Brougham's late speech (on the reform of the law) that there was no enlarged or original view in it, &c. &c. What will people not carp at in this age?

12th. Told Murray what the Longmans had said as to not pressing him for the money, which he remarked was very handsome, but

that still he felt it would be right of him to pay it, and he had already taken measures to that effect. Walked for some time with Lord Lansdowne: told me he had heard that the Duke of Wellington in writing to Mr. Fitzgerald to dispense with his services (Lord of the Treasury), said that he the more regretted being obliged to make this announcement, as he had some reason to think that he (Fitzgerald) would not have been unwilling still to continue in the office. I much fear the poor knight *did* "cast a longing, ling'ring look behind;" but he is a fine fellow notwithstanding, and his only fault is having ever become Whig, as nature has written "Tory" on his chivalrous brow. Burdett's has been another mistake of the same kind.

13th. Dined at Lord Holland's; sent for by him before dinner to go to his bed-room; sat some time with him: company at dinner, only Lady H. herself, Falck, the Dutch ambassador, Allen, and Lord William Russell. My lady in rather a *bravura* mood; asked me how I could write "those vulgar verses" the other day about Hunt. Asked her, in turn, why she should take for granted, if they were so vulgar, that it was I who wrote them? Said she feared it was; that Lord Lansdowne had first mentioned them to her, and that he (to her surprise) thought them very good, Lord H. joined us in the evening: Rogers, too, came. Home early. Promised Charles Fox to dine with him on Saturday, 23rd: am literally engaged three or four days every day till then.

14th. A kind note from Lady Holland inquiring after my cold, and asking me to dine quietly with her to-morrow, and go and see the new play: cannot. Dined early with the Donegals, having some business to do in the evening. Have not seen poor Lady D. since I came to town; fear she is seriously ill. Alas, that such creatures should suffer! Received a note from Barnes, saying that he had heard of my having spoken with disapprobation of the present tone of "The Times" newspaper; and cautioning me, in a friendly way, against the repetition of such language. Speaks of his "secret information" in the same pompous and mysterious style as he does in his newspaper. This is too ridiculous. There was but one man out of my own set, to whom I spoke on the subject (a clever, chattering

man, who sometimes forces me into conversation at the Athenæum) and this was his "mysterious informant." Told him so in my answer, and said that, as to my free speaking, he must learn to bear it as all my other friends do, and must take the bad with the good; that I had been equally open-mouthed to-day in praise of the spirited article he had given us, &c. &c.

15th. Dined at Longman's: company, Barnes, Dr. Paris, &c. &c.; Barnes speaking with contempt of Brougham's last speech. Dr. Paris gave us the history of Sir Humphry Davy. His father, a carver of wooden chimney-pieces: Davy put apprentice to an apothecary; sent away because he blew the apothecary's garret window out with a clyster pipe that he had charged with gas. Davy's discovery of the decomposition of alkalis ought, he said, to immortalise him. Had broached the theory a year before, and people cavilled at it; but, at last, he applied it to this great discovery. Went after the Longmans' to the theatre, but Lady H. was gone. Went up to the Duchess of Bedford's box, where I found the Duchess and Miss Russell, and saw the farce. A pun upon me in the farce which amused her Grace: Madame Vestris sings behind the scenes a few notes of "Young Love lived once," on which Wrench says, "Charming ballad—Moore," and a fool of a fellow replies, "No, there is no more."

16th. Joy called on me according to agreement, to go and call on the Duke of Sussex. Having said yesterday that he was going there about some books, thought I might as well take the opportunity of paying my visit also. Sent in our names, and the Duke returned word that he would see *me*. When he found, however, that we had come together, had in Joy also. Talked about politics, Ireland, &c., and what was my consternation (having engaged myself to be in town at two o'clock) when he produced an unpublished pamphlet by some reverend or other, and offered to read it to me. Was obliged to give a most cheerful assent; luckily it was a short one. Showed us then over his library, which is curious and extensive. When I remarked what a treasure such a library of reference would be to me, he said very good-naturedly, "Well, come and plant yourself here in my neighbourhood, and you may use it as if it were your own." On

Lord Fitzwilliam being announced to him, we got away. It is impossible for a royal personage to be more naturally and *unpretendingly* unaffected than is this same Duke of Sussex. Drove with Lady E. Fielding to make some calls. Met Lady Dacre at Mrs. —; talked about her private theatricals; said I should be very happy to join in them next year, which seemed to give her great delight; vowed she would keep me to my engagement. Left a note from Bessy with Lady Lansdowne, thanking her for a letter she had written to Sloper-ton, most kindly and thoughtfully offering the use of various articles of furniture, &c. &c. from Bowood, which she thought might be comfortable for Anastasia. Dined at Lord King's: company, Lord and Lady Lansdowne, the Carlises, Lord Clifden, Lord Howard de Walden, &c. &c.

19th. Called upon Rogers after breakfast; found Keppel with him; came away together. Introduced him to Murray; went afterwards to Colburn, where he made me a present of his book. From thence to his grandmother, Lady de Clifford, who is now, I think, eighty-seven,—a fine old woman. Called upon Lord Sligo, and had some conversation about Lord B. Spoke of the story which Byron always said was the foundation of the "Giaour." Sligo says, they were both riding together near Athens, when they met people bringing a girl along to be drowned; she was sitting wrapped up on a horse. Byron, by his interference, saved her. Lord Sligo did not seem very accurate in his memory of the transaction; is sure he never saw or knew anything of her before that encounter. She was afterwards sent to Thebes. One day when he was talking with Byron on the shore of the Gulf of Lepanto, Byron (who had before said that he would tell him some time why he hated his mother so much) pointed to his naked leg and foot, and said, "There's the reason; it was her false delicacy at my birth that was the cause of that deformity; and yet afterwards she reproached me with it, and not long before we parted for the last time, uttered a sort of imprecation on me, praying that I might be as ill-formed in mind as I was in body." S. said that Byron that day bathed without trowsers. * * * * Byron's offer to Lord Sligo to go and dig for him (in the neighbourhood of Elis, I think) for antiquities. Said, "*Dilettanti*, you know,

are all thieves, but you may depend upon my not stealing, because I would not give three half-pence for all the antiquities in Greece." Described Byron after his illness at Patras looking in the glass and saying, "I look pale; I should like to die of a consumption." "Why?" "Because the ladies would all say, 'Look at that poor Byron, how interesting he looks in dying.'" At Athens he used to take the bath three times a week to thin himself, and drink vinegar and water, eating only a little rice. Lord S.'s time with him at Athens was after Hobhouse left him. Called at Ebers's in consequence of a note, requesting "the honour of a few minutes' conversation:" found it was to get me on the committee of a new club he and his son-in-law were setting up. Said that, as the club was to be chiefly literary, it would give an *éclat* to its commencement, and that it should be no expense to me, as they would be most happy to receive me as an honorary member; that Mr. Campbell was already an honorary member, &c. &c. Answered, that if I belonged to the club I should belong to it as other people did, by paying my subscription. I, however, feared it would not be in my power, as *one* club was more than enough for me, and I already belonged to the Athenæum; if anything, however, should lead me to quit the Athenæum, I should join them. Went with Keppel to his lodgings, 28 Bury St. (formerly 27.) for the purpose of seeing the rooms where he lives (second floor), which were my abode off and on for ten or twelve years. The sight brought back old times; it was there I wrote my "Odes and Epistles from America," and in the parlour Strangford wrote most of his "Camæons." In that second floor I had an illness of eight weeks, of which I was near dying, and in that shabby little second floor, when I was slowly recovering, the beautiful Duchess of St. Alban's (Miss Mellon) to my surprise one day paid me a visit.

20th. Went early to Power's to play over my new Legends with Bishop. Then to Mrs. S., the Fielding's, Lady Donegal's. Dined with the Hollands; Lord H. sent for me to his bedroom. Talked of Lord Anglesey; his late interview with the King, when his Majesty flew in a passion at his expressing his intention to treat the Catholics with kindness: but when Lord A. firmly answered that such was his resolution, and that if it was found displeasing,

his Majesty might instantly recall him, the King changed his tone, and said he could not possibly have a better Lord-lieutenant. Talked of the Dissenters; their great objection to the Catholics is the surrender which the latter make of their right of private opinion into the hands of their priests. Lord H.'s argument in answer is, that the acknowledgment of the right of private opinion, which the Dissenters so properly hold, ought to be extended even to the right of surrendering that private opinion, if people are so inclined, into the hands of others; for though in consistency with religious liberty we cannot compel people to give up their right of private judgment, it is equally inconsistent with religious liberty to prevent them from giving it up if they were so disposed. As to the difference of opinion between Protestants and Catholics on the subject of tradition, the latter (I remarked) in maintaining that the Word of God existed before the Scriptures were written, are, according to the German notion of the gradual compilation of the Gospels, *right*. * * * Company at dinner, Lord and Lady Cowper, William Lamb, and Sir J. Mackintosh. Talked of the ignorance in the article on "Hallam" in the "Quarterly," about the affair of Glencoe; *this part* of the article is, it seems, not Southey's. Received this morning the draft of the agreement between me and Murray, and sent it to Clark, the solicitor, to look over it.

21st. Met Clark on the subject of the draft of the agreement. Went to call on Fletcher, Lord Byron's servant; some talk with him: but one can seldom get anything out of the fellow but blustering; *that* tribute to the memory of his master he is always ready with. Says he does not believe Lord Sligo, "nor any other Lord," that would say they had ever seen Byron's foot, no one ever having been allowed to see it, since the surgeons who attended him when a boy, except himself—Fletcher. Did not seem to like to talk about it, but told me, what was very striking, that even in dying Lord B. shrunk away when those about him put their hands near his foot, as if fearing that they should uncover it. Said, however, that there was nothing wrong in the shape of the foot, except being smaller than the other, and the leg and thigh on that side a little emaciated. Always wore trowsers (nankeen) in bathing. Latterly led a very quiet life in Italy,

but while at Venice was as profligate as need be. Great plausibility in his temper, and used always to make amends for any momentary burst of passion by his kindness afterwards. When he was dying told Fletcher there was a box of 8000 dollars, of which Tita was to have 2000, and he, Fletcher, the remainder. Dined at Lausdowne House; a large assembly afterwards.

22nd. Called upon Colonel Leake with Capell; never saw anything of Byron, but at the time he was at Teplene: seemed to him to have some weight on his mind. At three to Murray's to sign and seal our agreement. Present the two solicitors, young Turner and Clark, and Lockhart the witness. Dined with Murray in celebration of the event; company, Sir F. Freeling, Tooke, T. Campbell, James Smith, and some women. Mentioned Jekyll's saying quietly to himself, when some one mentioned that — was gone to Greece, "to the Greeks foolishness." Said that Johnson, from his hatred to Mallet, had defined a mallet in his dictionary as "a thing with a wooden head" (this is not the case): his definition of "windward" and "leeward" both the same (true). Mentioned somebody's criticism on the passage in "Henry V.,"—

"And their executors, the knavish crows,
Fly o'er them all, impatient for their hour."

[Act iv. sc. 2.]

that Shakspeare must have meant *legatees*, as executors get nothing by it. The judge answering to a barrister, who quoted "A deed without a name," "Void on the face of it." Went with Newton afterwards to sup at Mrs. Shelley's. Robinson and his daughters there; did not get home till near three.

23rd. Called upon Jackson, the pugilist. Showed me two or three letters of Lord B.'s, which I copied out. Said he had often seen B.'s foot, which had been turned round with instruments; the limb altogether a little wasted; could run very fast. In talking of his courage, said that nobody could be more fearless; showed great spirit always "in coming up to the blows." In Jackson's visits to him to Brighton used always to pay the chaise for him up and down. Very liberal of his money. Dined out at Charles Fox's, taken by Francis Baring. Company, besides Baring and myself, Labouchere, Trefusis, and Miss Fitzclarence. * * * Sung a good deal in the evening.

Miss Fitzclarence played and lent me two MS. music books.

24th. Had apprised Drury that I meant to come to Harrow to-day, and meant to have sported a chaise (the coach being too early), but at six in the morning was roused by the arrival of a man and horse with a note from Mrs. Drury, saying that her husband was in bed with the gout all yesterday, and would be too ill to receive me. Went off to the Charter House to make inquiries of Barbour concerning the proper age for boys entering on the foundation, in consequence of Mrs. Baring having told me that Gen. Bathurst (the Bishop's son) wishes to exchange a nomination to the C. H., which he has for this next month, for the *promise* of a nomination to either Charter House or Winchester in six or seven years hence. Mrs. B., knowing of my desire to place Tom somewhere, thought I might be able to manage this exchange. By the by, after she mentioned the matter to me yesterday I met Lord Grey, and told him of it. Said he did not well know how soon his turn would come, but should inquire. Learned from Barbour that Tom, being only nine, was not yet admissible, the suitable age being ten. Said he would let me know how soon Lord Grey's turn of nomination was to take place. Returned to my lodgings for the purpose of meeting Lord Sligo, who called upon me between one and two. Took me to call upon Bruce (Lavalette), whom I wanted to talk with on the subject of Lord Byron, he having seen him in Greece at the same time Sligo did. Bruce was then travelling with Lady H. Stanhope; described the conversation between Lady Hester and Byron, in which she regularly attacked him on the low opinion he professed of female intellect. B. (Bruce said) had no chance with her, but took refuge in gentlemanlike assent and silence. Lady H. a most eloquent person; were afterwards very good friends.

Bruce said, that nothing could be more gentlemanlike than Byron's manners were then; seemed in very bad spirits. Mentioned his being told by Douglas Kinnaird of Byron's receiving on one day two letters very creditable to female disinterestedness; one of them from his sister, protesting against his leaving her so much of his property as he intended to do, and the other from the Guiccioli, refusing peremptorily to receive any at all. Went from thence

to call on Bailey, and found him at home. Some talk about Byron, who was a schoolfellow of Bailey's at Aberdeen, and when they many years afterwards met at Cambridge, Byron (who was enormously fat) recognised and addressed him. Told a scene between him and B. at Bellingham's execution, which I have taken a note of elsewhere. When they met at Cambridge, Bailey said to him, "I should never have known you." "No! (answered Byron) I wonder at that; for I thought Nature had set such a mark on me that I could never be forgot." Bailey remembers having seen him without trowsers; saw that his feet were naked, and that he made no effort to conceal them. Called upon Mrs. Shelley, who walked with me to Dr. Mann's, where I was admitted. Had heard he was in possession of some letters that had passed between Lord and Lady B., whom he attended at the time of their separation, and was, according to his own account, a negociator between them. Went to the Donegals between five and six on the speculation of finding them about to sit down to dinner; did so, and enjoyed the quietness and friendship of the repast exceedingly. Left them early to go to Barnes for the purpose of getting him to insert a correct statement of my late agreement with Murray, a false account of which has appeared in some papers. Found him sitting after dinner with Narishkin the Russian, and one or two more, all busy at guessing conundrums, &c. Barnes made Narishkin read to me a translation he has made into English verse from the German, showing a mastery over our language which no foreigner but a Russian could have acquired. Went afterwards with Barnes to his own room, and drew up my paragraph while he wrote part of an article for next day. Says that he writes himself as little as possible; finding that he is much more useful as a superintendent of the writings of others. The great deficiency he finds among his people is not a want of cleverness but of common sense. There is not one of them (and he included himself in the number) that can be trusted with writing often or long on the same subject; they are sure to get bewildered on it.

25th. Called upon the Longmans; showed me my account on the "Epicurean," by which it appears that from the four editions there is placed to my credit 700 and some odd pounds. Of this I have had 500*l.*, but the balance over

is much more than I expected. Saw young Reynolds. Forgot, by the by, to mention, that when in Nottinghamshire, I received a letter from Heath, raising the sum of 500*l.* a year, which he had offered me to become editor of the "Keepsake," to 700*l.*, and begging for an immediate answer, as, if refused, it was his intention to set off to Scotland to Sir Walter Scott. Did refuse; in consequence of which, I find, he set off to Sir W. Scott, who also refused, though 100*l.* more per annum was added to tempt him. Sir Walter, however, contributes largely, and Reynolds (to whom the editorship has now fallen) has been after me day and night to prevail on me to do the same. Am resolved not, however. Forced a hundred pound cheque into my pocket to-day, as the price of a hundred lines; but (though the money would have been convenient and the task but light) forced it back on him again. The fact is, it is my *name* brings these offers, and my name would suffer by accepting them. Dined with Rogers *à grand couvert*; Lord and Lady Lansdowne, Lord and Lady Carlisle, Lady Holland, the Duke of Devonshire, Lord Normanby, Mackintosh, Luttrell, Brougham, and myself! With all these great guns, there was but little firing; all quiet and smooth, but very agreeable, particularly Brougham, in whose easy, natural, buoyant manner there is a never-ending charm. Called upon Mackintosh, by the by, this morning, in consequence of a note I had from him, proposing that we should go together to dinner at Croker's on Wednesday. Talked of the "Mémoires de Brienne" just published, and mentioned the curious story of the Cardinal Richelieu appearing before Anne of Austria dressed as a Spanish dancer. * * * Mentioned that Canning once said the only objection to making Charles Wynne speaker was that one would be sometimes tempted to say "Mr. Squeaker."

26th. Breakfasted with Rogers. Proposed to me to come and dine with him to-day (I had refused all engagements on account of my approaching departure) at an early hour for the Opera, and he would get Lord Essex to join us. Agreed. Went about various commissions; dined between five and six: company, Lord Essex and Mr. Grenville; very amusing. These veterans told some good anecdotes of the bygone times, and Mr. G. in particular

made himself very agreeable. * * * Told of Lord Coleraine's coolness one night in coming into his bedroom at an inn, which he found had been occupied, after he had bespoke it, by some one else. On his coming to the side of the bed, an angry Irishman put his head out, and said, "What the devil do you want here, Sir? I shall have satisfaction for this affront; my name is Johnson." At the same moment a little wizened-faced woman popped her head from under the clothes. "Mrs. Johnson, I presume?" said Lord Coleraine drily, pointing to the lady. Went to the Opera, Lord E., Rogers, and I; got in a stall next them, where we were soon after joined by Lord Spencer. Pasta admirable in "Tancredi;" never saw or heard her before to such advantage.

27th. In a bustle all day. Murray did not send me his Byron papers till almost the last moment. Packed before dinner, and took my portmanteau to the Gloucester Coffee-house; dined at Lady Donegal's; slept at the Gloucester Coffee-house.

28th. Off in the coach before eight; alone most of the way. Found my dear Anastasia installed in my library, and the parlour prepared as a study for me, all going on as comfortably as I could expect.

Feb. 29th to March 28th. From this time have not thought it worth while to journalize, being busy at home. Made my first regular start in "Lord Byron's Life."

29th. Bessy and I took our dear Tom to school at Marlborough. Mr. Lawes, the master, appears a plain, good sort of man. The dear little fellow looked at first rather shy and serious, but the feeling seemed to go off before we left him.

April 2nd. Walked to Methuen's, taking the Fieldings in my way. Have induced Caroline Fielding to undertake some designs for a volume of Legends I am about to publish with Power. Those she has already done promise very well. The Fieldings accompanied me as far as John Awdrey's, where we all paid a visit. Got to Methuen's just in time to dress for dinner: company, Bowles and Mrs. Bowles, Poulett Scrope, and Short of Chippingham. The day rather agreeable. Slept there.

3rd. Mrs. M. after breakfast drove me to see a cottage that Joy wants us to take; thence to the Fieldings. Got home to dinner.

10th. Went with Rogers to Devizes to attend the meeting on the Friendly Societies. Met there Methuen and Hobhouse. M. proposed that I should go back with him to Corsham, which I agreed to. Bowles (between whom, by the by, and Hobhouse there was a peace-making to-day, both shaking hands) told me that the house near Devizes with the ridiculous image of Apollo in the garden, naked and as large as life, is always pointed out by the stage coachmen as mine, the passengers exclaiming, "And an Apollo in the garden; how very appropriate!" This is too good. Company at Methuen's, Hobhouse, Joy and Scott (Lord Eldon's son); the day very agreeable, laughing *with* some, and *at* others; the latter falling to the lot of Joy and his friend. He mentioned the French lady accusing a fair neighbour of waylaying her beaux, "*Quoi, Madame, vous volez mes attentifs!*" Scott told of a Jew in some small theatre, saying at the very moment when the whole audience was in still and breathless attention to the sorrows of Mrs. Beverley, "I should like mosh to know who dat was dat spat in my eye." In the evening told ghost stories (one of which, related to Hobhouse and Lord Byron by Captain Kidd, I have elsewhere noted down) and afterwards sung a little.

11th. Conversation with Hobhouse about Byron after breakfast; have taken some notes of it elsewhere. * * * In speaking of Sir Walter Scott, H. said that he had been told by an old and intimate friend of Sir Walter's that he had never in the course of their long intercourse heard him give utterance to a single generous sentiment. I asked whether the reporter of this fact was a Whig, as I had seldom met with a thorough Whig partisan who did not mean by "generosity of sentiment" good Whig politics, as if it were impossible out of that pale to have a heart worth thinking of. He answered that his reporter *was* a Whig, which leaves Scott, I must own, exactly where he was before, in my esteem. Called at the Fieldings in my way back, having had a note from Lady E. yesterday, to say that if I did not come to luncheon to-day I should not see them, as they were to be off to-morrow. On my arrival at home, found that Bessy had been summoned to Starkey's on account of the dangerous state of the Doctor.

12th to 30th. At work with but little in-

terruption. Went to Barnes to express my surprise at a side-wind attack upon Lord L., which had appeared in a leading article in the "Times." In his answer expressed his regret at the circumstance, which had taken place during an illness which prevented him from attending to the paper himself, and promised that he would take care no such thing should occur again. Received a letter from a gentleman just arrived from Bermuda, who tells me he has brought me part of a calabash tree, which is as much an object of veneration there, he says (from my having written of it), as the mulberry of Shakspeare in England!! A Mr. D. of Glasgow writes to invoke my aid in furtherance of a pamphlet of his, on the subject of the Irish Poor, and proposes to me the story of Lazarus and Dives as a good subject to write a sort of "Tam o'Shanter" poem upon. Received a letter also from a Pater-noster Row bookseller, in consequence of a foolish story that has appeared in all the papers, headed "Illustrious bonfire," telling of a work of mine having been lately consigned to the flames (5000 copies) from having been pronounced by Brougham "a libel in every line of it." This worthy bibliopolist, in the true spirit of the trade, offers to enter into negotiation with me for the burnt book, and to bear me harmless through any legal consequences that may ensue. Another letter from a young lady, signed "Amelia Liptrap, Jubilee Terrace," full of literature and sentiment, but which (fearing from the name it might be a hoax) I have not answered. As a set-off against these, have received some useful communications on the subject of Byron, particularly from Miss Pigot of Southwell, and the Guiccioli; the latter of whom has sent me part of the promised *Storia*, and promises the rest. Mrs. Shelley, too, has procured for me from Bowring (who has been more complying on the subject than I expected) copies of some of Byron's letters to him from Greece, with a promise of the remainder. During this time, in addition to my chief occupation, I have written six songs for the volume of "Legends" that Power is about to publish (which complete the set), and seven or eight squibs for the "Times." Sent to this paper also a puff for Napier's book, of which Barnes made a leading article. On the 23rd, dined at Col-lings's, and on the 30th at Money's, having

gone that morning to Devizes with Bowles, and being asked by Money to join them at dinner. In talking of the different modes of pronouncing Latin in different countries, Money told of some party, consisting of several foreigners, where the word *causas* was proposed to try the variety of their pronunciations. One called it *carsas* (sounding it *calves-as*); another *cours-as*, &c. Talking of Crowe, the poet and orator, Money described him in his walks to Oxford sitting at the door of a little wretched inn, within some miles of that place (an inn where he used to sleep, in order to break his walk), with an old stump of a pen scrawling down part of the sermon he was to preach that day in the presence of the first nobles and scholars of the land. Did not know before that Crowe was the author of the sweet ballad, "To thy cliffs, rocky Seaton, adieu," which I remember since I was a child.

May 1st to 16th. Still at home, busy. Received a kind note from Sir Walter Scott, pressing me to hasten my visit to town before he leaves. Another from Lord Lansdowne, in which, complaining of the dulness of "The Times" lately, he says, "Not a single leading article has for a long time appeared in it worth 'The Cherries.'" This was a squib of mine that had just appeared. Our dear Anastasia, about the 12th or 13th, took a turn for the worse in her complaint, and made us very unhappy by the uncomfortable state she seemed getting into; violent spasms and pains in the afflicted limb, restless nights, &c. However, thank God! she is now (16th) much better. Off to-morrow for town.

17th. The York House coach full, though I had written to take a place in it; took a chaise on for the purpose of seeing Tom at Marlborough; found him quite well. Started from Marlborough in the coach at twelve; a pretty little girl inside, who turned out to be a saint. She found out who I was by a man in the coach asking me point blank whether I was not *the Mr. Moore*. Her zeal about me very amusing; anxious to know whether I really felt all that I had written in the Sacred Melodies, which she had every word by heart. A carriage came to meet her (and her maid, who accompanied her) at Kew Bridge, where we parted with most cordial hand-shaking. Took up my quarters at Power's, till my bedroom in Bury Street should be vacant.

18th. Called upon Fielding, with whom I had engaged to dine; found that his ladies were at Lord Lansdowne's villa at Richmond, which had been lent to them. Proposed that I should go with him there to dinner; but, as I was anxious to find Sir W. Scott as soon as possible, I agreed to go to-morrow instead. Called at Scott's, Sussex Place, Regent's Park; found that he was not to leave town for some days; left a message for him. Called at Methuen's; at Lady Donegal's. Walked with Byng, who told me that Sir G. Warrender was to have music in the evening; resolved to go there. Dined at the Donegal's; in the evening to Warrender's. A large party: Prince Leopold, the Esterhazys, &c. Pasta sung.

20th. Breakfasted with Rogers and his sister. Mentioned the pretty thought, in some eastern story, of a girl saying, "I have been so happy at this fountain that I am resolved somebody else shall be so too," and then throwing down a diamond that the next comer might find it. Called upon Murray and had some conversation about our work; urged him to apply to Hanson. Dined at Longman's; company, an odd collection, Col. Torrens (whom I afterwards found out to be the political economist, though never could have suspected it), Professor Napier from Edinburgh, Capt. Sherer, the author of "Recollections in the Peninsula," and McCulloch.

21st. Called at Holland House; found Lord Holland and Allen; a good deal of talk with them about Strangford's answer to Napier's note, which most people, I find, think satisfactory. Not so Lord H. and Allen. Dined at Bailey's; a very pretty party: Miss Bailey, Miss Pinney, Mrs. Wilson, &c., and went in the evening to Lady Davy's, where I saw many I wished to see, among others Sydney Smith. In talking of the Irish Church and pronouncing it a nuisance, he said, "I have always compared it to setting up butchers' shops in Hindostan, where they don't eat meat: 'We don't want this,' they say. 'Aye, aye, true enough, but you must support our shop.'" Frankland Lewis asked me to dine with him on the 28th to meet Sydney Smith, and on my answering that unluckily I was engaged, Smith said, "Fix him for that day in the year 1849; he will dine with you then, that is, if it be leap year; to your regular diner-out the bissextile

makes a vast difference." Received a note from Sir Walter Scott yesterday to say he should be at Brighton these two days, and asking me to breakfast with him on Saturday next.

22nd. Breakfasted at Rogers's. Luttrell and Lady Sarah Lyttleton the party. Luttrell told of an Irish fellow saying (in speaking of the dulness of the town of Derry on the Sabbath) "Well, to the devil I pitch a Protestant town of a Sunday." L.'s idea of the English climate; "On a fine day, like looking up a chimney; on a rainy day, like looking down it." Sydney Smith saying to Rogers when R. praised the gentleness of his (S.'s) horse, "Yes, a cross of the rocking-horse." After breakfast Sydney came in; sent a message by me to Rogers last night to say that he must ask him to meet me some morning at breakfast, which R. now did for Tuesday next. Smith spoke of Cooper, the American writer, whom he had been lately visiting. Cooper's touchiness; his indignation against Lord Nugent for having asked him to walk to some street with him, and on being admitted where he went to visit, leaving the republican to return alone; his rage with the Duke of Devonshire for not returning his visit, &c. &c.; said that "the world should hear of these things!" Sydney joking with me as to the way I should proceed with Cooper, which was, as he advised, to call him out the first thing I did, for, as it must come to that, I might as well begin with it. Went to the Longman's: drew bills upon Power for 500*l.* at six and eight months; saw my account with the *LS.*; not quite made out, but they think the balance, if any, will be in my favour. Called upon Bowring in St. Mary Axe, but did not find him. Had intended to dine with the Fieldings to-day, but on calling there, found they had dined at three o'clock. Went to the Athenæum, and afterwards to the play.

23rd. Rogers having told me he was to meet Scott this morning at breakfast with Chantrey, went there early. Found Scott sitting to Chantrey, with Rogers, Coke of Norfolk, and Allen; Cunningham assisting. Talked of Sir Alexander M — (I think) and his son, on whom the following conundrum was made: "Why is Sir A. like a Lapland winter?" "Because he is a long night (Knight) and his sun (son) never *shines*."

When Sir W. went away Chantrey begged of R. and me to stay and keep Coke in talk during his sitting to him. Got him upon old times; told a strange story (which I find Rogers more inclined to swallow than I am) of a dinner given by Lord Petre to Fox and Burke after their great quarrel, and of a contrivance prepared by Lord Petre to introduce the subject of their difference, and afford an opportunity of making it up. This was no less than a piece of confectionery in the middle of the table representing the Bastille! "Come, Burke," said Lord Petre, at the dessert, "attack that Bastille." Burke declined. "Well, Fox," continued his Lordship, "do *you* do it." "That I will, by G —," said Fox, and instantly dashed at it. *Credat Judæus*. I doubt much whether they *ever* met again after that quarrel.* Came away with Rogers. A letter from Bowring, informing me that he was preparing copies for me of Lord Byron's correspondence with him; and, strange to say, opening up at once, without any reserve, the subject of my attack upon him in "The Ghost of Miltiades;" "you have written better things of me," he says. He then expresses a strong desire for a few moments' conversation with me, adding that he thinks he could, in a few words, remove the impression I had of his conduct. Went to Col. Bailey's, having promised his daughter on Wednesday evening (in order to get off singing then) to come and sing for her this morning. Found Mrs. Wilson, &c. &c. Was in good voice, and with "The Song of the Olden Time" drew tears from the young beauties around me. Dined at Lord Lansdowne's, and finished with the second act of Sontag's "Donna Anna," in the Countess St. Antonio's box. Not a bad day altogether. Walter Scott, Rogers, and Chantrey, at breakfast; music and Miss Bailey at luncheon time: dinner at Lansdowne House, with the Venus of Canova before my eyes, and Sontag in the evening. Taking it with all its *et ceteras* of genius, beauty, feeling, and magnificence, no other country but England could furnish out such a day.

24th. Breakfasted with Sir W. Scott. Company, Newton and Mrs. Lockhart, and Scott's second son. Story of Mr. Rose applying to some Scotch laird (Sir A. M —, I believe)

* I have often heard of this dinner, but believe it happened before the quarrel.—Ed

for permission to shoot on his grounds. The answer thus:—"Sir A. M.— regrets that he cannot comply with Mr. Nose's request;" and then in a postscript, "Finding that your name is *not* Nose, shall have great pleasure in allowing you, &c. &c." * * * In speaking of the shoals of applications he is pestered with, said that not long since he had a letter from a Danish captain, stating that he (the captain) had *dreamt* that Scott had lent him two hundred pounds, and hoping that (for the honour of dreams, I suppose) he would be kind enough to realise the vision. After breakfast called at Longman's, &c. &c. Dined at Holland House (having been asked by Lord Essex to dine with him and go to the French play). Company, Lord Spencer, Lord Ilchester, young Tierney, Hallett, &c. Talked of the Literary (Johnson's) Club, which consists of forty members; often not well attended. Lord Holland and a friend going there one day found themselves *tête-à-tête*, and Lord Liverpool actually dined there *solus*. A rule of the club that any of its members on being appointed to the Governorship of India should present it with a pipe of Madeira. When Canning was appointed, he had proceeded so far in this ceremony as to ask the members whether he should send the wine from Madeira, or take it on with him for the advantage of the voyage, and they decided for the latter. On his giving up the appointment, a question arose whether the Madeira should not still be claimed of him, but of course was scouted. Told Lady Holland I had inquired of Scott, according to her wish, who was the *second person* he meant when he said he had been assured by two people of their having themselves seen ghosts, and that both of those people afterwards put an end to themselves. This introduced ghost stories, and Tierney told one, rather good, about the two rival lovers of a young lady being seen going into a wood, in some dreary part of England, accompanied by the servant of one of them; the favoured lover found dead, professedly in a duel; the survivor (Mr. Baker) ingratiating himself afterwards with the young lady, and (the surprise being that he, who was no swordsman, should have gained the battle of the other, who was an expert one) confessing to her that he had murdered his rival; that he had gone to a fencing-master, who in a few lessons had taught him a trick, by which he

might seize his antagonist's arm and dispatch him. The girl marrying Mr. Baker; his being haunted by some phantom unseen to all but himself, and wasting away: had told her of the dreadful look of his antagonist in grasping the arm that was about to dispatch him, and now for ever complained of a deadly pain in that arm. At last, as if something irresistible urged him, going alone into the wood where the deed had been committed, and never being seen afterwards. I ought to have mentioned that, during the whole of this time, he was visited occasionally by a person muffled up, whose coming he seemed to dread, and who always left him agitated when he departed. It was supposed that this was the servant who accompanied him into the wood at the time of the pretended duel, and that they had both overpowered and murdered the other. Lady H. calling me to look at the fine cedar tree agitated by the gust of wind in the moonlight. Slept at Holland House. Sat up some time talking with Lord H.

25th. Nobody at breakfast but Lord and Lady H. and myself. Lord H. wheeled in his gouty chair, but with a face as gay and shining as that of a schoolboy, holding in his hand an epigram, which he charged me with having written and sent to his room.* In speaking of the passage from one of Lord Byron's papers, in which he says that he himself and I were the only authors of the day who had an opportunity of seeing high life thoroughly, "he from birth, and I from circumstances," Lord Holland said it was not so; it was *not* from his birth that Lord Byron had taken the station he held in society, for till his talents became known, he was, in spite of his birth, in any thing but good society, and *but* for his talents would never, perhaps, have been in any better. In talking of the feeling he had towards the men he lived with, Lord H. said, "*you* were the only literary person he formed an intimacy with who was 'hail fellow, well met' with him; the others he was rather inclined to insult." The anecdote about Lord H.'s expositulation with him on his attack upon Lord Carlisle's paralysis; his horror on finding that Lord C. was really paralytic, and saying, (*while* he pointed to his foot,) "Me, good God! *me*, of all men, to attack personal in-

* This epigram is not worth giving.

firmities!" It was in the preface to the "Corsair" that he intended to make the explanation on this subject, but gave it up in consequence of the attack upon him in the "Courier." Thinks Lord B. "had a twist;" his sister always told him he resembled Lord Carlisle. Asked Lord H. about the story Napier tells of Sir W. Scott having written a song for the "Pitt Club," while Fox was dying, the burden of which was "Tally-ho to the Fox." Not a word of truth in it, as I told Napier when he mentioned the wretched calumny. Scott *did*, rather unjustifiably, write a squib against the "Talents" not long after they gave him (when they might have withheld it) the place he now holds, and there *was* some fellow (Lord H. believes) who at the "Pitt Club" yelled out "Tally-ho to the Fox;" out of these two circumstances it was not difficult to trump up the story Napier tells. Lord H. mentioned, as curious, the constant opportunities Dryden takes, in his "Virgil," of abusing the Dutch, and alluding to King William. Forget his instance of the former, but among those of the latter were the translations of *Pulsatusve parens*, which Dryden renders "Expel their parents and usurp the throne;" and another (not much to the purpose) *dominumque potentem imposuit*, "Imposing foreign kings for foreign gold." Left Holland House in time to get to Rogers's, where Sir W. Scott was to call for us. Called at three to take us to dine with his son, Major Scott, at Hampton. Scott very agreeable on the way; told him our conversation at H. House about ghosts, which brought on the same topic. His own strong persuasion, one night, that he saw the figure of Lord Byron; had been either talking of or reading him, and on going into the next room was startled to see through the dusk what he could have sworn was Byron, standing as he used to do when alive. On returning into the drawing-room, he said to his daughter, "If you wish to see Lord Byron, go into that room." It was the effect of either the moonlight or twilight upon some drapery that was hanging up, which, to his imagination, just then full of Byron, presented this appearance. Rogers's story of the young couple at Berlin in their opera-box, between whom, at a distance, there always appeared to be a person sitting, though on going into their box, it was found that there was no one there but themselves. From all parts of

the house this supernatural intruder could be seen; but people differed as to its appearance, some saying it was a fair man, others a dark; some maintaining that he was old, and others that he was young. It should be mentioned that there was some guilty mystery hanging over the connection between these young people; and as, at last, no one ventured to visit their box, they disappeared from Berlin. This anecdote Lord Wriothersley Russell brought with him from abroad. Scott (who evidently did not like the circumstances being left unexplained) proceeded to tell a story of Mrs. Hook, the wife of Dr. Hook, who wrote the "Roman History," "it being as well," he said, "to have some real person to fix one's story on." Mrs. Hook becoming acquainted and intimate with a foreign lady, a widow, at Bath; their resolving to live together on their return to London. Mrs. Hook, on coming down stairs one day at this lady's lodgings, meeting a foreign officer on the stairs, saying to her friend next day, "You had a visitor yesterday?" the other answering "No; she had seen no one since Mrs. Hook left her." Mrs. H. thinking this odd; going another day into her friend's dressing-room by mistake, and seeing the same officer there alone, stretched on the sofa. Being now sure there was something not right, determined to mention it to the lady, who, at first, said it was impossible, but on hearing a description of how the officer was dressed, fainted. Mrs. Hook convinced that it was some improper *liaison* she was carrying on, determined gradually to give up her acquaintance. The foreign lady soon after was preparing to go to London, and Mrs. Hook being in the room when her maid was packing (the lady herself not being present), saw a miniature case fall out of the portmanteau, and taking it up and opening it, saw the portrait of the very person whom she had met on the stairs. "That," said the maid, "is the picture of my mistress's husband." "Her husband!" "Yes," answered the maid, "he died a short time before we left Germany." In a few weeks afterwards there arrived an order in England to have this foreign lady arrested on a charge of murdering her husband. On our arrival at Hampton (where we found the Wordsworths) walked about, the whole party, in the gay walk where the band plays to the infinite delight of the Hampton *blues* who

were all *eyes* after Scott, the other scribblers not coming in for a glance. The dinner odd, but being near Scott I found it agreeable, and was delighted to see him so happy with his tall son, the major, whom he evidently looks upon as a chevalier of romance. Told me of a tournament or joust which this son maintained once (and came off victorious) against a *Montmorancy* when in barracks in — Dublin! Forgot to mention that he spoke with great delight of Mrs. R. Arkwright (whom he had met at Devonshire House) and her singing. The song, "One hour with thee," he did not at first remember to be his own words, and said to her "how pretty the words were." The Duke of Wellington, on his journey to Petersburg, took notes all the way upon the campaign of Napoleon in Russia, having Segur's book and some others with him.

26th. Called upon Bowles, and went with him and young Montgomery (author of the "Omnipresence," &c.) to Newton's; afterwards to the Fieldings. Dined at A. Ellis's: company, Prince Leopold, Lord and Lady Carlisle, Lord and Lady Tavistock, Lords Normanby and Essex, the Lascales and Barings. Many of the party in full dress, on account of the King's ball in the evening. Sat between Lord Carlisle and Baring at dinner, and had some agreeable conversation. In the evening Lord Essex wanted me to go to the French play with him; but I had promised to join the Fieldings, in the Duke of Devonshire's box, at the theatre.

27th. Breakfasted at Rogers's, to meet Cooper, the American: Littleton and Lady Sarah, and Luttrell, also of the party. Cooper very agreeable. Anecdote of the disputatious man: "Why, it is as plain as that two and two make four." "But I deny *that* too; for 2 and 2 make twenty-two." Cooper said one thing which, more from his manner than any thing else, produced a great effect: mentioning some friend of his who had been well acquainted with Lady H. Stanhope abroad, and who told him of his having, on some particular occasion, stood beside her on Mount Lebanon, when Cooper came to the word "Mount," he hesitated, and, his eyes being fixed on me, added, "I was going to say Mount Parnassus, looking at *you*." When Rogers, too, in talking of Washington Irving's "Columbus," said, in his dry significant way, "It's rather *long*," Cooper

turned round on him, and said sharply, "That's a *short* criticism." Remained some time afterwards with Rogers.

28th. Breakfasted at the Athenæum; called on Hanson; went to Longman's; thence to the West End. Called on Lady Elizabeth Belgrave, and met there Lady Stafford and Lady Cawdor. Lady S. very gracious: the first time, I think, we have met since a memorable night at her house when the Regent was there. Wishing to have a peep at him, I got in the third tier of the circle around him, and found myself placed next to Brummel. Presently the persons before us cleared away, and left him and me exposed to the Regent and his party, consisting of Lady Hertford, Duchess of R., &c. Brummel being rather comical, I could not help laughing with him a little, which I felt at the moment was unlucky, both of us being such *marked* men, though in different ways, with his R. H.; and, accordingly, I found afterwards that the Duchess of R. represented us everywhere as having stood impudently together, quizzing the Regent. Brummel himself confirmed this to me, and added, in his own way, "But she shall suffer for it; I'll chase her from society; she shall not be another fortnight in existence." All this, however, my Lady seemed to have forgot now, and was all graciousness. Talked of the resignations; mentioned that her son, Lord Francis, had just sent in his. Dined at the Longmans at Hampstead; Mrs. Purvis, who offered to drive me out there, called for me, and left me at Hampstead. Large party at dinner; among others, the Solicitor-General. Sung in the evening. Was asked to countless places to-day (among others, to dine at Prince Polignac's), but the Longmans had secured me before I came up.

29th. Breakfasted with Newton: was to have met Harness (Lord Byron's friend), but he could not come. Went with Newton to the exhibition, and showed me this morning a proof of the print of me from his picture; did not think it like me; said I thought it more like my partner in the Row, *Rees*; upon which he burst out a-laughing, and begged me not to put that in other people's heads, as it really *was* like Rees. Early dinner with the Countess St. Antonio, in order to go to Sontag's benefit: had given up all other engagements for this: and among them, one to meet Sydney Smith at Sir G. Phillips's. No one at

dinner at the Countess's but her brother and Mercer. Opera, *Otello*; Pasta the Moor, and Sontag *Desdemona*. Altogether admirable, except for the *déplacement* of the male part to a woman's voice, which a good deal spoiled the effect. The Countess, a most useful ally on such occasions, insisted on my taking the front place, for the purpose of seeing Sontag properly. Amazed by the partizanship on the subject of Pasta and Sontag; the Countess all for the latter, Lady C. M. (whom we talked with in the room afterwards) as violently for Pasta; and when I mentioned that Sontag (whom, by-the-bye, the Countess had up to our box after the opera, despatching the gallant Prince of Schwartzberg to bring her) had complained of Pasta's having hurt her by seizing her hair in the scene of the murder, Lady C. exclaimed eagerly, "Oh no! I assure you that *couldn't* have hurt her at all! Pasta did the same last time, and it is beautiful." Wrote to Hanson to fix a day for me to see him.

30th. Breakfasted with Mrs. Purvis. Met Villamil, and went with him first to the British Gallery, and afterwards to see pictures in Bond Street. The new ministerial arrangements completed: told the list by Lord Francis Gower, who ended it by saying, "And in my place Horace Twiss." Held up my hands in astonishment, and left him. Went with the Fieldings to some manufactory beyond Westminster Abbey, to see a great Burmese bell which has been brought over since the war with Burmah. The workmanship beautiful, and, though supposed to be (as the man told us) 1500 years old, is better constructed for sound than any bell-founder could make it now: covered all over with inscriptions, which have not yet been translated; 'tis open at top, and never had any clapper. Dined with the Fieldings, and went with them to a public concert afterwards. Had been asked by Mercer to dine with him, and go to the French play. Met D'Israeli this morning at the Athenæum: he has invited me to meet Southey at dinner on the 6th; but I hesitate. He said, "Byron was studious when a boy, but concealed it, thinking it more dashing to appear an idle fellow." In trying a new coat on me this morning, Nugee, that pink of tailors, said, turning me out of his hands, "There's the coat that will immortalise me." The accounts of my dear Anastasia rather alarming; fear that

Bessy does not tell me *really* how ill she is.

31st. Breakfasted at the Athenæum; immediately afterwards to meet Bishop at Power's; looked over with him his arrangements of my volume of "Legends." Met Lord Strangford; walked out with him. Met Jordan of the "Literary Gazette," and introduced him to Lord S. Jordan said, laughingly, that he would not suffer me to make free with the first syllable of his name as I had done; did not know at first what he alluded to, till he reminded me that in writing to the Longmans about the story he had inserted of me relative to the letters of Captain Rock, I called his paper the "*Li*terary Gazette." Went together to call on Lady Donegal, who is able to receive visitors, and was to-day in good spirits; had a good deal of laughing. After parting with Strangford, took a drive with the Fieldings. Dined at Wilbraham's, and was late at dinner: company, Lord and Lady Cawdor, Lord and Lady Graves, George Fortescue, Cholmondeley, &c. &c. Sat next young Villiers, and had a good deal of conversation about literature, &c. In the evening at the Opera, Miss Pinney having sent me a ticket. First to her box; then to the Countess St. Antonio's, &c. &c. Bessy's letter to-day confirms me in my fears that Anastasia is worse than she will tell me.

June 1st. Breakfasted with Rogers, the Wordsworths, and Luttrell. A quatrain quoted by Wordsworth about the Shelleys:—

"Twas not my wish
To be Sir Bysshe,
But 'twas the whim
Of my son Tim."

All assailed me about some American lady, Miss Douglas, who, it seemed, was dying to see me, and had called once or twice at my lodgings with Sydney Smith. Agreed to send for her, and she came, carrying in her hand a little well-printed American edition of my *Melodies* and *Sacred Songs*. Told me a long story about it: that it was a clergyman made her a present of it, &c. Mentioned also a beautiful friend of hers, who had been "very gay," and a great admirer of my poetry; when she was dying she wished to hear some sacred music; and this Miss Douglas brought a person to her to sing one of my *Sacred Songs*, "Were not the sinful Mary's tears," but did

not think it right to tell her that the words were by the same poet she had so delighted in in her days of pleasure. Wordsworth produced an album for us all to write in, Rogers, Luttrell, and myself. Miss Douglas, by-the-bye, also told me of Miss Emmett, the daughter of him who went to America; her abstaining at all times, from speaking of Ireland, as a subject she could not trust herself with; but one night, having been prevailed on to sing my song, "Weep on, weep on, your hour is past," she burst into tears before she was half-way through it; and starting up from the piano-forte gave at once full vent to all her feelings about Ireland, execrating England in the most passionate manner, and wishing that America and the other nations of the earth would join to avenge Ireland's cause on her. Called upon Barnes; talking of the aristocracy, he abused them for their gross ignorance of the feelings and wants of the classes below them, their selfishness, their stupidity, &c. &c. I said (and might have given himself as an instance) that the same ignorance prevailed among the inferior classes with respect to the aristocracy, who were *not* selfish, nor deficient in sympathy with the people to anything like the degree which the latter supposed. Owned, however, that there was a want of *rapprochement* between the two classes, which was but too likely to increase every day, and which might end at last in disruption. Told me Stirling was the author of the admirable article on Ireland a week or two since. Driven out by Lady E. Fielding and her daughter Caroline, to leave my card with the Duke of Sussex. Read to them a curious letter I have received from an American, proposing to me to join him in a revolution, *my* part being to prepare men's minds for the event, and his to execute it. Says that there are many persons who profess to love liberty, but few who have the strength of mind to love her "in her ragged attire;" that he "looks, however, to Thomas Moore for this degree of virtue," &c. &c. If this gentleman could but see my tailor's bill, he would know that I am, unluckily, not at all given to "ragged attire." Dined with the Fieldings (was asked also to Lord Bath's): company, Lord — (a young Irish Lord whose name I forget), Mr. and Lady Mary Stanley, F. Baring, &c. &c. Went in the evening to the Countess St. Antonio, who had

also asked me to dine, to meet Sontag. Found there Sontag, Velluti, Torri, Mercer, and the Mitfords. Sontag trying over things she had never seen before, and making little excursions with her voice as she sat alone on the sofa, very interesting. The accounts of my dear Anastasia rather better.

2nd. Breakfasted at the Athenæum; met Bowrig by appointment. His manner of speaking of my attack upon him rather interested me, but his defence of his conduct seemed to rest wholly on the circumstance of his having had four persons (whom he consulted) to bear him out in the line of conduct he pursued. These were Hume, Ellis, John Smith, and somebody else, whose opinions he had asked before he took the step he did (relative to his Greek bonds), and who all thought that, under the circumstances of the case, there could be nothing blameable in his conduct. *Valeat quantum*, &c. Met Lord Normanby, and walked with him towards the House. Conversation as to whether there would be now a strong opposition. Lord N. thought there *ought* to be. Called on Mrs. Purvis; on the Donegals. Went down to the House of Commons to try and get under the gallery; but all full. Met Ellice there (Coventry Ellis), who told me he had the letter Lord Byron wrote to him to ask for *renseignements* with respect to South America at the time he meditated going there, and would give it me. Dined at Baring's: company, the Cawdors, Lady Normanby, Sir Francis Burdett, &c. &c. Sung a little in the evening for Lady Normanby, who sung in turn for me; then went down with Baring and Burdett to the House, where we found the East Retford nearly coming to a division. Met Maurice Fitzgerald coming out of the House, evidently to *shirk* the division; looked shy and awkward when we questioned him about it. Waited for a few divisions on clauses; had some conversation in the smoking-room with Lord B. (who also fought shy of the division), and then came away.

3rd. Breakfasted with Luttrell, who sets out to-morrow on a tour upon the Rhine with his son. Dined at Holland House: company, David Bailey, Scarlett, Sir — Pechell, and one or two more.

4th. Breakfasted with Harness; Newton and I went together; the rain desperate. Harness mentioned that he saw once a collection

of all the reviews that had appeared upon Byron's early poems, noted in the margin by his mother, Mrs. Byron (who had got them all bound up together), and the remarks not such as gave Harness the idea of a very ignorant or incapable woman. Some discussion with respect to Byron's *chanting* method of repeating poetry, which I professed my strong dislike of. Observe, in general, that it is the men who have the worst ears for music that *sing* out poetry in this manner, having no nice perception of the difference there ought to be between animated reading and *chant*.* This very much the Harrow style of reading. Hodgson has it; Lord Holland, too (though not, I believe, a Harrow man), gives into it considerably. Harness himself, I perceived, had it strongly; and, by his own avowal, he is without a musical ear, as is Lord Holland to a remarkable degree. Lord Byron, though he loved simple music, had no great organization that way. Lunched at Fielding's; found Pasta there, looking handsomer and younger than I expected her off the stage. Met Wilson on the subject of Napier and Strangford; agreed that he should write me a note expressive of his opinion, which I should inclose, backed by my own sentiments, to Napier.

5th. Set off after breakfast for Harrow, with Corry and Latham; Drury having wished me to make my promised visit to him on the Speech Day. Was asked to dine at Prince Polignac's. Corry not very well: he and Latham dined at the inn, while I was doomed to the cold repast at Drury's. Nothing was ever so dull; speeches, dinner, company, and all. Walked with Drury's daughters in the evening. Was introduced by him to Lord Delawarr, from whom I expected to get something about Byron; but when Drury applied to him on the subject, found he had nothing to communicate. Introduced also to Dr. Maltby at Butler's, and promised to breakfast with him (as Sir W. Scott, he told me, had done) next Sunday morning. Visited the churchyard, before the speeches began, to look at Byron's seat and the place where Allegra is laid; she came over in three coffins. Supped and slept at Drury's.

6th. Set off for town in the coach at nine. Called on the Villamils; Mrs. V. sung to the

* This was very much the style of reciting of the admirers of Pope in the last century.—En.

guitar for me. Sent an answer to an invitation which I have had to dine with Prince Leopold on the 24th; alleged the necessity of leaving town next week as my excuse. Philip Crampton just arrived; saw him but for a short time. Dined at Rogers's: company, Lord Clifden, Lord and Lady Gage, the Lubbocks, C. Fox, Lady Davy, Jekyll, &c. &c. Sat next to Jekyll, and was, as usual, amused. In talking of figurative oratory, mentioned the barrister before Lord Ellenborough. "My Lord, I appear before you in the character of an advocate from the city of London; my Lord, the city of London herself appears before you as a suppliant for justice. My Lord, it is written in the book of nature —" "What book?" says Lord E. "The book of nature." "Name the page," says Lord E., holding his pen uplifted, as if to note the page down. An addition to our party in the evening, among whom was Mrs. Siddons; had a good deal of conversation with her, and was, for the first time in my life, interested by her off the stage. She talked of the loss of friends, and mentioned herself as having lost twenty-six friends in the course of the last six years. It is something to *have had* so many. Among other reasons for her regret at leaving the stage was, that she always found in it a vent for her private sorrows, which enabled her to bear them better; and often she has got credit for the truth and feeling of her acting when she was doing nothing more than relieving her own heart of its grief. This, I have no doubt, is true, and there is something particularly touching in it. Rogers has told me that she often complained to him of the great *ennui* she has felt since she quitted her profession, particularly of an evening. When sitting drearily alone, she has remembered what a moment of excitement it used to be when she was in all the preparation of her toilette to meet a crowded house and exercise all the sovereignty of her talents over them. *Apropos* of loss of friends, somebody was saying the other day, before Morgan, the great calculator of lives, that they had lost so many friends (mentioning the number) in a certain space of time, upon which Morgan, coolly taking down a book from his office shelf, and looking into it, said, "So you ought, sir, and *three more*."

7th. Breakfasted at Holland House; themselves and Mackintosh. Mackintosh produced

a letter of Scarlett's, in answer to a circular of Wilmot Horton's, requesting opinions on his new plan of securities against the Catholics; viz. preventing them from voting on any subjects connected with the Church. Scarlett's answer was approving, and Mackintosh expressed his intention of giving the same sort of opinion, but both Lord Holland and Allen cried out against it, in which I most heartily joined them, there being nothing more unconstitutional or absurd than such a plan. Poor Mackintosh very meekly gave up his intention (being evidently under the thumb of Holland House), and after breakfast read us his answer, which was merely civil and evasive. Lord Holland's mimicry of Morris, the tutor of the late Duke of Bedford, admirable, and made me laugh more than Liston could. His saying "I have been very much blamed for not going to Ireland with the Duke of Bedford (the present one); but the truth is, I wasn't asked." Said once to the late Duke of Bedford, after a great speech he had made, "Have read your speech; monstrous good: can't think where you got it all: where did you find it?" Went at three to the meeting at Murray's for the monument to Lord Byron. Hobhouse's exceeding nervousness; his anxiety to assure me that I was left out of the sub-committee *solely* from the circumstance of my not living in town; said I thought it quite right. Lord Clare, with whom I never before exchanged a word (he having always, as I understood, declined knowing me from some mention made of his father in one of my early political squibs), came up of himself, and addressed me. Lamented he had been so unlucky as to have destroyed all Byron's letters to him, except one or two of very little consequence, and expressed the pleasure he felt at the task of writing the Life having fallen into my hands. Dined at Lady Davy's. Story of the man asking another, whom he was about to help to chicken, whether he wished the leg or wing? "It is a matter of perfect indifference to me," said the other; "and infinitely more so to me," replied the carver, laying down the knife and fork and resuming his own dinner. An assembly in the evening. Went afterwards to Mrs. Pinney's, where I found music; stayed but a short time. Still kept in a state of anxiety about my Anastasia.

8th. Up very early, in order to be down at

Lincoln's Inn Fields to breakfast with Dr. Maltby at half-past nine; was in time; went after breakfast with him to the chapel, where he preached. Walked about a good deal with Crampton and the Duke of Leinster; the latter took us to show us his new house. Fixed all to dine with Edward Moore on Wednesday, I having refused about six fine dinners for that day, under the idea that I should be leaving town. Called with Crampton and the Duke at Lord Leitrim's; sat some time with Lady Leitrim. Dined at Colonel Bailey's; taken by Lord Duncan and Elwyn: company, the Belhavens, the Cummins, Lord Strangford, &c. &c. Sung in the evening. Forgot to mention that after the morning I last sung here, I received some verses, full of praise, from one of the ladies present, alluding particularly to the "Song of the Olden Time."

9th. Breakfasted with Corry; a party of Irishmen: P. Crampton, Doherty, Knight of Kerry, and Tom Hume. P. Crampton's salutation of Doherty, on coming in, by throwing his leg over his head. Odd fellows, to be sure, my countrymen are. On Doherty (who is our Irish Solicitor-General) hearing that John Crampton was arrived, he exclaimed immediately, "Then I'll go and buy two squirts." He then explained this by telling how Crampton and he used to go, armed with squirts, of a winter's evening, when the coaches were starting from the White Horse Cellar; then filling the squirts, and keeping them ready behind their backs. Crampton saying, "Now don't you be *young about it*, but reserve your fire till the coachman says 'All's right,' and then I'll take the front outside passengers and you the hind ones." Their letting fly, &c. &c. Took a lunch with Power at four, and got to the House of Lords a little after five, Lord King (whom I called on this morning) having asked the Chancellor's leave to put me behind the throne. Found it very crowded; several ladies; had Lady Charlemont and Mrs. Cunliffe beside me most of the time. Lady Harrowby and some of her daughters there too. Lord Lansdowne's speech in moving the question very good and animated in some parts. My extreme anxiety, perhaps, both for him and for the cause, made me hypercritical. The other speeches very dull; all except the Archbishop of Tuam's, which kept the House in most irreverent laughter: even the bishops not

refraining. Every new prophet and commandment he cited produced a new burst of laughter. Got tired, and came away at nine o'clock. Had dinner at the Athenæum. Spoke with Crampton to-day about our dear girl, and he promises to have some consultation with Lawrence on the subject.

10th. Breakfasted at Villamil's, to meet a Spanish musician, Gomis. Found also there a young Spaniard, the author of a novel in English, called "Gomez Arias." Some very charming things sang both by Mrs. V. and Gomis, who is about an opera, with all Spanish music. Called with fear and trembling at Benett's for my letter from Bess; found it far more comfortable than I expected; the leeches have removed the spasms. Went to Longmans, and Rees accompanied me to the Royal Exchange to call upon a person connected with Cephalonia (Mr. Hancock), on the subject of Lord Byron. Rees mentioned Sir W. Scott having said of me that I was (in manners and habits) a truly *Gentleman* poet. In something of the same feeling, Scott said of Wordsworth (as we were going down to Hampton), that he was, in society, *too much of the poet*. Saw Mr. Hancock, who promised to procure all he could from Cephalonia for me. Lunched at a coffee-house in Fleet Street, and got to the House of Lords at half past four; taken in by Lord King, and found already three tiers of persons occupying the steps of the throne. Knew most of them, however, and they made room for me in the very front of them all; an excellent place; sat with my legs in the House. Those round me were Fazakerley, Lyttleton, Lord Morpeth, Wortley, &c., &c. Some conversation with Lord Plunkett, who arrived early. While he was speaking to us, Lord Eldon came and shook hands with him as he passed, on which Lyttleton said to Lord Plunkett, "That reminds me of Gregson and Gully shaking hands together before they *set to*," it being the general expectation that Lord Plunkett reserved himself to speak after Eldon, and some attempts being made last night to unkenel Eldon for the purpose. Among the persons who came to speak to me were Lord Grey, Lord Dudley, Limerick, Thomond, &c., &c., and the Duke of Sussex. The Duke, pointing to the Archbishop of Tuam, who sat quite near me, said, in his high squeaking voice, "Did you hear that — — speak last night? I

think we might have brought him up with another prophet: 'And he said, saddle me the ass, and they saddled *him*.' " Lord Plunkett's speech, in one or two of its bursts, magnificent. "Is it for me to set my back against that door and shoulder the Duke of Norfolk from it?" After the immense cheering that followed this, his exclamation of "Shame, shame, shame on the perverse ingenuity, &c. &c.," was the most effective thing I can conceive. "Excellent tyranny! if it was but practicable." "They are the spawn of your own wrong" (speaking of the Catholic agitators). These and a few other points told most grandly; but the dryness of his legal arguments afterwards, and the want of any thing like a peroration to wind up with effect, made the remainder of his speech appear tame and *manqué*. By far the most comprehensive and useful speech of the whole debate was Lord Haddington's, and surprise was not among the least ingredients of its success. Came away at twelve, and had something to eat at the Athenæum. Sent an excuse to Dr. Holland, with whom I was to have breakfasted to-morrow morning to meet Spurzheim.

11th. Called upon Rogers after breakfast, and found with him Keppel and Madame d'Arblay's son. Had some rather interesting conversation. Dined at Edward Moore's: party, the two Cramptons, the Duke of Leinster, Doherty, Corry, and myself.

12th. Breakfasted with Mr. Cowell, having made his acquaintance for the purpose of gaining information about Lord Byron. Knew Byron for the first time when he himself was a little boy, from being in the habit of playing with B.'s dogs. Byron wrote to him to school to bid him mind his prosody. Gave me two or three of his letters to him. Saw a good deal of B. at Hastings; mentioned the anecdote about the ink-bottle striking one of the lead Muses. These muses had been brought from Holland; and there were, I think, only eight of them arrived safe. Fletcher had brought B. a large jar of ink, and, not thinking it was full, B. had thrust his pen down to the very bottom; his anger at finding it come out all besmeared with ink made him chuck the jar out of the window, when it knocked down one of the Muses in the garden, and deluged her with ink. In 1813, when B. was at Salt Hill he had Cowell over from Eton and *pouched* him no less than ten pounds. Cowell has ever

since kept one of the notes. Told me a curious anecdote of Byron's mentioning to him, as if it had made a great impression on him, their seeing Shelley (as they thought) walking into a little wood at Lirici, when it was discovered afterwards, that Shelley was at that time in quite another direction. "This," said Byron, in a sort of awe-struck voice, "was about ten days before his death." Cowell's imitation of his look and manner very striking. Thinks that in Byron's speech to Fletcher, when he was dying, threatening to appear to him, there was a touch of that humour and fun which he was accustomed to mix up with everything. Dined with the Fieldings, and went with them early to the Opera. Sat in Miss Stevens's box. Pasta divine in *Medea*. Visited Mrs. Purvis in her box, and agreed that Corry and I would dine with her to-morrow. Alluding to a note I had from Sydney Smith, asking me to dine with Hebbert (his daughter's father-in-law), in which he had said that I should have a capital dinner. "the West India reptile cooked in a way of which no other house was capable," Mrs. P. promised we should have "the reptile" to-morrow.

13th. Walking about with Corry. Called on the Donegals; promised to go and see Barbara in the evening. Dressed for the Duchess of Clarence's quadrille at the grand ball. Dinner at Mrs. P.'s very snug; went in the evening to Lady D.'s, but just missed Barbara. Called upon Douglas Kinnaird this morning; showed me the portrait of Byron in his possession, remarking how much of the *female* character there is about the mouth, chin, &c.

16th. Off in the coach for home; my companion a young man who turned out to be a son of Sir C. Ogles. Had a copy of Galigani's edition of Byron with him, and turned to me, while he was reading, to ask me which I liked, Byron's, Moore's, or Scott's poems the best! "Said I thought that each in their different ways were ——" "That's exactly what I think," he replied; "one finds it difficult to say which is the most beautiful." Did not find me out. Found my dearest Anastasia relieved from her spasms, and better than I expected.

17th to 30th. From this date being chiefly at home, with much business and but little events, have neither time nor matter for journalising in detail. Occupied (as much as my

anxiety for our dear girl would let me) with my Byron work.

July 8th. Dined at Scott's, and slept there.

18th. Corry came to us from London; he and I walked to Bowood. Lady L. out. Dined with us, and went on to Bath in the evening; brought Anastasia a very pretty workbook.

26th. Saw Lord Lansdowne. Told me a good mistake of his porter in town. Meaning soon to set off to the continent, Lord L. had made some inquiries about an old courier of his, in answer to which a message was left with his porter, that "the courier was disengaged." The old porter, with his head full of recent changes, repaired immediately to Lord L.'s valet, with a face of mystery and importance, and said he didn't know what was in the wind now, but that a message was come to say that the "Courier newspaper was disengaged, and at my Lord's disposal." Dined at Collings's.

28th. Took Tom to Bowood on the pretty donkey Lady L. has given him, with a very nice saddle to boot; the dear fellow quite happy with it. Dined there; none but Guthrie, Lord Kerry, and themselves. Talked of the use of particular words; "tasteful," for instance, which the Hollands will not hear of; yet surely nothing can be more pursuant to analogy: beautiful, joyful, graceful, &c., being all formed in the same manner, and seeming, indeed, to require it to be of their company. Lord L., owning all this, was still of opinion that there was something defective about the word, possibly from the confusion produced by its also being applicable to objects of the *palate*. Mentioned a coinage I had made in my "Anacreon" of a diminutive "winglets," also according to analogy, but not very much to be approved; in which, however, I was followed by Campbell in some of his poems. Talked of the use of an English dictionary; Lord John Russell (as he has often told me) never, by any chance, refers to one, while he is writing, and I am always referring to it. *Quare*, Whether this is from my being an Irishman, and not so at home in the language? The Scotch, certainly, are seldom so much at their ease in it as to venture upon that best charm of style, a vigorous and graceful familiarity. Scott an exception; his English almost always delightful. Talked of Fox's style in his "History." I pronounced it bad, but had no recol-

lection how *very* bad it was, till I took down the book and read over some of the passages. All agreed that nothing could be more constrained and ungraceful. Lord and Lady L. and Louisa walked part of the way home with us.

August 11th. Dined at Locke's; Edmonstone and his brother, Phipps, &c. Edmonstone far more agreeable than usual; repeated some amusing *jeux d'esprit* of Mansell's (the Master of Trinity). * * * * Anecdote of the rival shoemakers; one of them putting up over his shop *Mens conscia recti*, and the other instantly mounting "Men's and women's conscia recti."

12th. Dined at Bowood; only Mr. Thomas Grenville and Oakden. Day very agreeable. Strange and barbarous task at Westminster, that of turning Horace into other language. The late Lord Warwick's habit of tying knots in his pocket handkerchief in order to recollect the various episodicall allusions with which his conversation abounded. Oakden has seen no less than five knots on the handkerchief, all which he most duly and tediously returned to. A character in one of Murphy's plays does the same, or rather a person is mentioned by one of the characters who *did* so. Slept there.

16th. Dined at Bowood: company, the Duchess of Hamilton, Lord Douglas, and Lord John Russell. In the evening the Duchess of H. sang; the first time I have heard her for twenty-two years! Still a fine creature both in voice and face. Slept there.

17th. Lord Lansdowne and Lord John Russell walked part of the way home with me. The Duke of Clarence lately, in talking over the division on the Catholic Question, said to some one, "Well, it was not bad, considering, too, how many of the opponents voted like *me* against their own opinion." This Lord L. heard from the Noble Lord to whom the Duke said it. In talking of the probability of Lord Grey joining the Duke of Wellington, Lord L. said that, "to gain the Catholic cause, any one ought to come in at any time." Lord John Russell proposed to me to join him in a trip to Ireland this summer: he would wait for me at Lord Cawdor's, and after passing a day or two there I should proceed with him to Ireland. Very tempting, but not much chance of my being able to effect it, as I must reserve myself for the chance of my dearest Anastasia being ordered somewhere for change of air.

18th. Lord John called to see Bessy; staid some time. Walked back with him: conversation about Ireland. Said I felt that it was now time for me to do what many circumstances had hitherto indisposed me to, viz., take an active part in the affairs of the Catholics, and that if I went to Ireland I would attend the associations. Said he thought I had better not; that one could best serve the Catholics by keeping out of their ranks, and joining their cause, not themselves.

24th. Walked over to Bowood, and a little after one set off with Lord Lansdowne for Highclere, Lord Carnarvon's place. Called to see little Tom in passing through Marlborough, and left him some fruit Lady L. had given me for him; a delightful day and most agreeable journey. Our conversation on the degrees of happiness possessed by different people; "few plead guilty to happiness," &c. &c. Company at Lord C.'s the Puseys, an old clergyman, and ourselves.

25th. After breakfast Lord L. left us to join Lady Lansdowne at Newbury, and proceed on their way to the Continent. Walked and drove about for several hours with Lord Carnarvon, through his grounds. The conversation on politics and his own personal share in them, which he laid open and discussed unreservedly—his views of the coalition with Canning, &c. &c. Some neighbours to dinner: sung a little in the evening. Have looked, during to-day, through a book published by Lord C.'s brother, "Nimrod," full of odd notions and multifarious learning. A good deal of laughing with Lord C. about two or three strange things I pointed out to him in it; the derivation of Old *Nick* from *Νεικος*, &c. &c.

26th. After breakfast (having stood a good deal of pressing to make me stay) set off in Lord C.'s carriage for Newbury, and, taking the first coach that arrived, got home in the evening. Forgot, by-the-bye, to mention that on the day I dined at Bowles's with the Lansdownes (August 2nd), I said to them on our way thither, "I wish you had an old farm house you could put us in, for I fear we shall be obliged to leave Sloperton, it is so small for us, now that Anastasia lives at home." I then mentioned to them some thoughts I had of building on a spot near us (of about three acres' extent) if I could get possession of it;

and, in talking of the expense of building a cottage, Lord L. said, "I think, as far as wood and stone go, we could help you out a little." They then both inquired particularly with respect to the position of the ground I mentioned; and Lady L. said, "As you don't set up much for a man of business, you had better leave the whole thing to Lord Lansdowne, and he'll see what can be done in it." The very next morning we saw a man on horseback visiting the aforesaid spot of ground, who proved to be (as I learned afterwards from Lord L.) his agent, Atherton, whom he had sent for the purpose. On our way now to Highclere, he told me that though the title to the ground (as I had already informed him) was a complicated one, yet there *could* be a title made, and he had left directions with Atherton to follow up the matter during his absence. It would be right, however, he said, that I should, in the meantime, refrain from either acting or talking upon the subject, as the idea of *competition* would be sure to tell against us in the negotiation. Another circumstance which I omitted to mention during this time relates to my transactions with the "Times." The tone taken by them on the Clare election, and on a trifling *row* at Ballinamore (which they very mischievously magnified into a rebellion), induced me at last, after some expostulations, to send in my *demission* as contributor; explaining that I could not conscientiously remain connected with a paper holding the tone upon Irish affairs that the "Times" did at present. Received a very friendly letter from Barnes, saying how much they regretted the loss of my aid; that I had been "of the highest service" to the paper, and that they only hoped the separation would not be final; feeling, no doubt, that our views upon Ireland would, ere long, again coincide. Gave Barnes some letters of introduction to Ireland, together with one from Lord Lansdowne (whom I made acquainted with all the above circumstances) to his agent at Kenmare. During Barnes's absence in Ireland, the tone of the paper came right again, in consequence of which I resumed my communications, beginning with "Lord Belzebub presents," &c.; and on Barnes's return, he wrote to me to say that his tour had wholly converted him, and that it would be henceforth no task to him to support the Irish cause with all his might.

September 1st to 6th. Several tempting invitations, viz., to the York House music meeting (having had a letter from Mr. York to remind me of my conditional promise); to the Eisteddvod (the meeting of the Bardic Society in Wales, of which I have been made an honorary member), Colonel Hughes having asked me to meet the Duke of Sussex at his house during the meeting; to Ireland, with Lord John, &c. &c.; but can accept of none, our Anastasia having sufficiently recovered the use of the limb to admit of her being soon removed to the sea. Received a long letter from Lord Francis Gower, in answer to one I wrote recommending Corry to his notice; expresses his regret at my having given up my intention of coming to Ireland, and enters very frankly and fully into the *present state* of Irish politics.*

7th. Dr. Brabant having pronounced Anastasia (who has begun for some days to move about on crutches) sufficiently recovered to be taken to Southampton, despatched Hannah off to that place to procure lodgings, and bespoke an open carriage at Parsons's to take us there.

12th. Arrived at Salisbury before five, very comfortably. Slept there.

13th. Started after breakfast, and got to Southampton about four; 'Statia but little fatigued by her journey, and only feeling the roughness of the pavement in entering Southampton.

14th, 15th. Went on the 15th to Cowes, in the steam-packet; found that the Listowels were still there. A most lovely evening. Took a walk up the hill by Mr. Ward's, and was in a state of enchantment all the time: the sunset on the sea, the ships,—all beautiful. The Listowels had been out in their yacht, and I received them at their landing. Dined with them; only Lord Ennismore and his mother of the party; in the evening, Lady Ashbrooke, who played and sung. Slept there.

16th. After breakfast, the water being still beautiful, Lady L. proposed that, as I must leave them, they would take me back in their yacht. Did so; the sail delightful. Introduced Bessy to Lady L. at Southampton.

18th. Off in the coach for Salisbury at eight.

19th. Found proofs of my "Cash, Corn,

* Lord Francis Gower (now Lord Ellesmere) had succeeded the Hon. H. Lamb (afterwards Lord Melbourne) as Irish Secretary.

&c." to correct. Called at Locke's. Pressed to stay dinner, but, on account of my engagement to W. Taylor, could not. Promised to come on Sunday.

20th. A copy of "Nimrod," very nicely bound, from Lord Carnarvon, with a kind letter.

22nd to 25th. At work, but found solitude far less favourable to study than I expected. Anxious, too, about Anastasia, and often, when sitting alone in my study of an evening, fancying that I heard her cries of pain in the parlour.

27th. A note from Brabant, to say that Lawes (Tom's schoolmaster), as well as his usher and three of the boys, were ill with fever, and that he had, in consequence, brought his own boy and my Tom away. Walked in to Devizes, and found dear Tom looking quite well, and lodged at Brabant's. Dined with Brabant, and walked home in the evening.

29th. Walked in to Devizes, to the mayor's (Hughes's) dinner. My health drunk with great applause; much more, indeed, than that of any of their dignitaries. Made a speech which seemed to amuse them. Slept at Hughes's.

30th. Up before seven, to see Tom off in the mail for Salisbury; giving him a note to the mistress of the Antelope, to have him forwarded safely to Southampton. Walked home to breakfast, and, after working a few hours, returned to Devizes, to dine with Scott. Company, Watson, Taylor, &c.

October 1st and 2nd. Dined at Methuen's; taken by Brabant, whom I had requested them to ask. Dr. Franklin's idea of the soul that, on the principle of Nature doing nothing in vain, it is difficult to believe that minds, brought to perfection by time and culture, should be let to go out, like the snuff of a candle, without being turned to any account afterwards. Company, Joy, the Paulet Mildmays, and Lord Falmouth (who, by-the-bye, had called at Sloperton with the Methuens in the morning). Sang in the evening, and slept there, Brabant having gone home.

3rd. Pressed to stay and accompany the party to Bath, to see the young Queen of Portugal, but determined on going home. Taken by Methuen in his curriole.

7th. Went over with Mrs. Scrope in her carriage to see their place, Castle-Combe, which

is beautiful. Walked back with Joy and Scott; Joy repeating by heart the whole of my squib, "Lord Belzebub." Off in Joy's carriage for Houlton's, but, being very late, took a chaise at Bradford, and did not arrive till the Houltons were half done dinner. Found there Locke and his two daughters, Bertha Ricardo, and Miss Grenfell, the girls (including the Houltons themselves) forming a group of beauty rarely seen together. Music in the evening; duets, guitar, harp, &c. &c.

8th. Received a letter from Bessy to say that Tom had shown symptoms of fever on Saturday, but, at the time she wrote, the doctor thought nothing bad would come of it. This news filled me with anxiety; the idea of his having typhus, and communicating it to the other two children, dreadful. Read the letter over and over again, to try and extract comfort from it; read it also to Mrs. Houlton, who thought I had no reason to be alarmed. In the evening had all sorts of gaieties, in which I joined, I think, with the more *abandon* from the excited state of my mind during the day. Played at magical music, and then blindman's buff, in which my activity made Mrs. Houlton declare that people knew but half my talents who never saw me play blindman's buff. The young beauties, though having only two elderly beaux (Locke and myself) to play the agreeable with them, seemed as sparkling as if surrounded by dandies. Clutterbuck, who called to-day, promised to send over for my letters to Sloperton on Friday next, and bring them to Bath for me.

9th. No more accounts from Southampton, which, I persuaded myself, augured good. Went to look at the girls practising archery, but did not like it; the exertion unfeminine, and distorts both their figures and faces. Another gay evening, for which the younger part of the family was kept up, and music, blindman's buff, &c., sent us all tired to bed.

10th. Set off to Bath with John Houlton, to attend the mayor's dinner, the mayor being Tudors, who was Anastasia's surgeon at the beginning of her complaint. Met Lady Davy, and promised to drink tea with her after the dinner. Two hundred and seventy people sat down to table; several grandees, Lords Camden, Bath, Brecknock, Cork, Thynnes, &c. &c. Had some talk with the Bishop of Bath and

Wells before dinner. Sat next to Watson Taylor, who tried to convince me that I was wrong in my views of Lord Castlereagh's political character. Could not easily grant him this, but owned that I had mixed up Lord Camden with the bloody transactions of '98 more than his conduct since inclined me to think he deserved. Went to Lady Davy's; joined there, soon after, by Watson Taylor.

11th. Set off for Devizes at one o'clock, with Watson Taylor and Salmon, in W. S.'s carriage. Our conversation on the way interesting, as being about the events of '98 in Ireland, when W. Taylor was secretary to Lord Camden, and I was a young sucking rebel at college; his companions being the Cookes, Castlereaghs, &c. of that period; and mine, Emmett, Lawless, and *hoc genus omne*. Compared notes as to our respective recollections, and felt, both of us, how strange it was that he and I who, thirty years ago, were placed in a position where either might have been called upon to hang or shoot the other, were now chatting over the whole matter amicably in his barouche. William Salmon not a little edified by our conversation. Found now, for the first time, that Watson Taylor was the author of the words of the celebrated "Croppies lie down,"—a song to the tune of which more blood has been shed than often falls to the lot of lyrical productions. Dined with Dr. Brabant, and walked home to Sloperton afterwards.

12th to 14th. Forget whether I have mentioned that the editor of the "Keepsake" had this year renewed his proposals for me to contribute something to that work. His first wish was that I should write a hundred lines of poetry for him at a guinea a line; and when I was in town in June he actually thrust a check for 100*l.* into my pocket (when it would have been exceedingly convenient to me), but I threw it back to him again, and declined having anything to do with the work. In a month or two after he came down to me at Sloperton, with the following proposal: that I should write a hundred pages for the work, in either prose or poetry (three or four of said pages to be for this year's "Keepsake," and the remainder for next;) and receive for such contributions 500*l.*, half to be paid down immediately. This also I declined; and he then still further proposed the sum of 600*l.* for one hundred and twenty pages. After taking some time to deliberate

(as the offer was certainly a magnificent one), I declined this likewise; explaining to him all my reasons, or rather feelings, on the subject, unreservedly.

23rd. Set off for Southampton, to-morrow being Tom's birthday, and it being their wish that we should all dine together.

24th. Took them all (our dear Anastasia included) to the play, and she sat it out remarkably well. The young Hardmans, and their French governess, of the party.

26th. Walked out to breakfast at Lord Ashtown's [Chessel House]; a most lovely place, combining all the beautiful features of Southampton in their best form. Went with the A.'s to church. At two, Bessy and the young ones came, Tom superlatively happy on a donkey. After luncheon, returned with them to Southampton, and hired another donkey for a little way for Russell. Called on Mrs. Prevost and Miss Hamilton, two Irish ladies who were introduced by Lady Listowel to Bessy, and have been unceasing in their kindness to her and the children.

27th. Driven into Southampton after breakfast by Trench, who is an agreeable and gentlemanlike person. Dined at Fleming's: the hostess is not only pretty but "most musical." Has Moschelles sometimes down for weeks, and goes to Paris to take lessons of Kalkbrenner. In talking to Rossini, mentioned the horror with which these learned harmonists regard the tricks he plays in composition; the way he *hints* chords, and is then off again without the trouble of resolutions or transitions, and, in short, enraptures people contrary to all the rules of the art. Played a good deal for me in the evening, and with feeling as well as power.

30th. Breakfasted with Mr. Madison, whose house and garden stand on part of the ground that the late Lord Lansdowne's foolish structure occupied. Between one and two, having settled everything, started in Mrs. J. Hamilton's chariot, with horses from the Dolphin, and arrived at Salisbury about dusk; our dear girl bearing the journey perfectly well. Slept at the Antelope: found the landau waiting.

31st. Arrived at the cottage; calculate the whole trip to Southampton to have cost me about 100 guineas. Forgot to mention that some weeks since, I had a letter from Lord John Russell from Woburn, sending me some

verses he had written about the Duke of Newcastle and Lord Kenyon; very good, at least for the first twenty lines, but after that, from his usual laziness, falling into doggerel, and spoiling a good thought and lively commencement by a most unworthy ending. Wrote to him to this effect, and begged that he would work the idea out more carefully. Told him, too, that I had myself just finished and dispatched a squib to "The Times," before I received his, of which the ground-work was, oddly enough, very much the same, "Brunswick Echoes." In his answer said how much surprised he had been himself, on seeing my verses in the paper, at the coincidence between us.

November 1st to 12th. Chiefly at home working, and but little variety of events. Our dear girl going out occasionally in the landau, and improving in the use of the limb. A letter from Lady Jersey, asking me to meet the Cowpers at Middleton.

19th. Started in the coach at ten o'clock for town; arrived before eight. Went to my usual lodging at Sandon's, in Bury Street.

20th. Went to Power's; called on Rogers and found Luttrell there. Rogers wanting me to go to Brighton with him instead of to Middleton; would give me a bed. Talk about Dr. Muir, the person from Cephalonia, whom I want to see about Byron. R., who has seen him, says he has one letter of B.'s of importance. Promised to return to dinner with Rogers, and went with Luttrell to take my place in the coach for Middleton. He had been invited there, but refused; said he would not have done so had he known I was going, and on our finding at the office that there was plenty of room in the coach, determined, to my great delight, to change his mind and go too. Set off to the Charter House to see Lucy Drew; found her with F. Montgomery and some young French marquis, looking much altered. Gave me, on parting with her, a letter from Lady Virginia, which I read in the hackney coach on my way back. Such a letter! Dined at Rogers's; his brother and sister and Kenny our company, with Luttrell sitting by as spectator most of the dinner, being engaged somewhere else. Had agreed, Luttrell and I, not to tell Rogers of his change of mind with respect to Middleton. Stayed till ten o'clock. Kenny amusing; quoting

from Charles Lamb; a eulogy of his on some dashing, dissipated fellow. "His contempt of money, especially yours or mine; his greatness at the midnight hour," &c. &c. Saw poor Lady Donegal this morning; still more broken, alas! than when I last left her.

21st. Breakfasted with Luttrell. Went to Murray; all good humour and courtesy. I had some little fears that as my insurance expires this month, he might be inclined to demand other security; but not a word was mentioned of it. Told me of a translation of my "Epicurean" into German, which Hallam has brought from Innspruck with him. Spoke of the division among the managers of King's College; some ultras not wishing to budge beyond the standard of the old universities, and others, more liberal (among whom is Blomfield), desirous to take advantage of such an opportunity for improvement. But to some people improvement is wormwood. Went to Power's and then to Longmans'. Gave me some more letters from Mr. Hancock relative to Byron. Dined at Lady Donegal's, but she herself not well enough to see me.

22nd. With Luttrell to breakfast at seven, and started at eight to the coach for Middleton. Arrived at six. Found the party assembled in the drawing-room; the Cowpers, the Worcesters, Madame de Lieven (Lieven himself having gone), the Falcks, Lord Castlereagh, and Henry de Roos; Lord Castlereagh the only one I was not acquainted with. The Duke of Devonshire gone, which I was sorry for. Dinner very agreeable; singing in the evening. Lady Emily Cowper sang, and Lord Worcester and Lord Castlereagh, and of course I sang a good deal.

23rd. Walked for some time after church hours with Lady Cowper: talked of her brother William as not unlikely to take a strong part on the Irish question in the House of Lords, and expressed her own wish that he would. In speaking of the Duke of Wellington's mode of receiving Lord Lansdowne's interpretation of his speech last session, she said that Lord Cowper had distinctly heard the Duke say, "Yes," to Lord L.'s statements. This, however, as I told her, was not Lord L.'s own impression. I heard that the Duke had cried, "Hear," and questioned Lord L. as to the circumstance; but he said, "No, there was nothing so strong as that; I watched him

closely while I spoke, for it was a great point to pin him down as much as possible without going so far as to produce any counter declaration from him; and though he certainly did not give any decisive sign of *assent*, he as certainly did not give any of *dissent*." Lord Cowper, on Lady C. appealing to him, confirmed what she said of his having distinctly heard the word "Hear" from the Duke. Such weight have a great man's monosyllables in the affairs of nations, and so much on the nod of a noble soldier may the fate of millions depend! Dinner still more agreeable than yesterday: begin to like Lord Castle-reagh. Singing again: Falek (a fine, sensible Dutchman) sung very good-humouredly, without accompaniment, one or two French drinking songs; and his wife (who looks like one of Rubens's women just descended from her frame), sang, also, in the same way, some French vaudevilles. Falek much amused with some Irish and other stories that Luttrell and I told. Madame Lieven went this morning, and, unluckily, without my hearing her on the pianoforte. She appeared last night much pleased with my singing; and Lord Jersey said it was the greater triumph, as she had been the evening before expressing her dislike of all English singers.

24th. After dinner walked for some time with Luttrell: mentioned his version of the joke about Lord Dudley's speaking by heart:

"In vain my affections the ladies are seeking:

If I give up my heart, there's an end to my speaking."

The Faleks went off this morning. Had at dinner Lord Villiers, with two young companions, Lords Ossulston and Grinston, come over from Oxford, for the evening. Ossulston a handsome and natural mannered young fellow, with a good singing voice, which he let us hear at the pianoforte in the evening; when my songs, too, were put in requisition as usual. Wished to have started for town to-morrow; but not only the Jerseys themselves, but Luttrell wished the contrary, and so I have yielded.

25th. After breakfast the Cowpers took their leave, repeating to me very cordially their often expressed wish that I should visit them at Panshanger: said I might come whenever I knew they were there. No one left but Luttrell and myself. Walked with Lady Jersey

through the grounds to the village, &c. &c. No one at dinner, but Lord and Lady Jersey, Luttrell and myself. Passed the evening in trying over some old music with her. Gave me two letters of Byron's to her; and wrote this morning for me to Lord Grey, to remind him of his conditional promise on the subject of the Charter House to my little Tom.

26th. Luttrell and I started in a chaise at nine o'clock from Oxford, where we arrived just in time to catch a coach to town, and got in between six and seven. Dined with Luttrell; saw some reason to suspect that he has at last *married*.

27th. Called at different places. Sat with C. some time, and had a good deal of talk about my Bermuda place—thinks I cannot take any steps as to a deputy (at least a deputy with *security*) till there is something to give security *for*, which can only occur with a war. Called at Longman's and drew my bills upon Power. Went to Mr. Hancock on the subject of Byron. Dined at Chantrey's, taken by Murray; company, besides, Joy, Stokes, and a Mr. Walker. Chantrey fixed that I should sit for him the next time I came to town. Talking of the late interview he and Wilkie had with the King, which lasted some hours. Wilkie saying afterwards to Chantrey, "I am glad I went to Windsor to-day, for it will *inure* me to the King." C. took me into his own room in the evening, and showed me all the late correspondence between him and the committee for Canning's statue, on which he is evidently sore. Nothing, however, can be more respectful or more complimentary to him as an artist than their appointment of a deputation to wait upon him, and the language which this deputation addressed him. Endeavoured to impress this upon him.

28th. Had Davidson the printer with me to look over the MS. I have brought up. Thinks it will make about 200 pages. Dined at Murray's: company, Sotheby, Chantrey, and the Lockharts. Day agreeable; had been most of the morning with Mrs. Shelley driving about to various places. Some one mentioned to-day that a discovery had been made in the State Paper Office of a collection of letters by Cardinal Wolsey, and also papers of Milton.

December 2nd. Off at half-past eight for home.

P R E F A C E

TO THE SIXTH VOLUME OF THE ENGLISH EDITION.

To the close of the present volume I have given from Moore's own diary, fully and minutely, the story of his life. Having reached a period only twenty years from the present time, I propose to employ with more reserve the remaining portion of my materials. The constant repetition of daily engagements becomes at length wearisome; and as we approach nearer the present day, the duty of omission becomes at once difficult and indispensable.

But before I quit these volumes, it may be well to take a retrospect of that portion of the course which has been run, to throw a light on some passages that may seem obscure, and to obviate some inferences which have been rashly made from imperfect knowledge or malignant conjecture.

It must be obvious, to any one who has read these pages, that the character of Moore was not difficult to understand, although, like that of most men, it was not without inconsistencies and contradictions. With a keen sense of enjoyment, he loved music and poetry, the world and the playhouse, the large circle of society, and the narrow precincts of his home. His heart was thrilled by deep feelings of devotion, and his mind expatiated over the wide field of philosophy. In all that he did, and wrote, and spoke, there was a freedom and a frankness which alarmed and delighted:—frightened old men of the world, and charmed young men and young women who were something better than the world. With a love and affection ready to burst out on all sides, he felt as he sang:

"They may rail at this life: from the hour I began it,
I've found it a life full of kindness and bliss;
And until they can show me some happier planet,
More social and bright, I'll content me with this,

"Oh! think what a world we should have of it here,
If the haters of peace, of affection, and glee
Were to fly up to Saturn's comfortless sphere,
And leave earth to such spirits as you, love, and me."

I have not endeavoured to conceal his weaknesses. I have allowed it to be seen that he was dazzled by the first aspect of London so-

ciety; that, in making confessions to his mother which he would not make to any one else, he avowed his delight at being noticed by the Prince of Wales, and chronicled all the praises which his poems received. Sagacious persons have thence argued that he had a great deal of vanity. A few words on this topic may not be amiss.

There is much truth in the maxim of La Rochefoucauld, that "what most offends us in the vanity of others is that it jars with our own." Every one says to himself, "There is a man so absorbed with his own merits that he does not perceive mine." Still there are different kinds of vanity, and each partakes of the character of the person in whom it resides. Of these kinds the worst is that which makes little display, but is continually at work in depreciating others that our own superiority may become conspicuous. A vanity of this kind is largely mixed with envy. It is an envy too the more odious, as it is not content with hating some single person, or aiming at some single advantage, but hates every person who is admired and loved, and every quality for which a person is admired and loved. This kind of vanity cannot bear that a girl of eighteen should be admired for her beauty, or a child of three for its prattle. Any thing that attracts and absorbs attention is gall and wormwood to it. But above all, when that particular merit which competes with its own supposed eminence is admired, nothing is spared to injure, to depreciate, to depress the person thus endowed. The most sacred bonds of friendship, the strongest ties of affection, are broken to indulge its boundless passion. Truly did Mr. Sheridan say, that ambition and avarice are not so destructive in their rage or so furious in their career as vanity. He must have meant vanity of this kind. There is another kind of vanity, which is in many respects the opposite of that which I have described. It is open and ingenuous, taking for granted that all the world adopts its own estimate of its own excellence, and therefore in excellent hu-

mour with all the world. If the world sneers and depreciates, a person of this character ascribes the sarcasm to the malignity of some one, or some few, and goes on satisfied and happy as before. Vanity of this kind is often joined with much kindness, and even with simplicity and candour. It is compatible with a high appreciation of the works and acts of others. It often overflows in benevolence towards family, friends, neighbours, and mankind in general.

I own it appears to me that an open confession of this kind is preferable to a humility which is often nothing better than hypocrisy. It is difficult to believe that a poet, an orator, or an historian, whose fame is an echo to every effort of his genius, can be ignorant of his own merit. When Horace says—

"Exegi monumentum ære perennius,"

and when Ovid, in the same spirit exclaims—

"Jamque opus exegi quod nec Jovis ira nec ignis,
Nec poterit ferrum, neque edax abolere vetustas."

I applaud their manly candour, and acknowledge the truth of their prophecies. It is the same with Dante, Milton, Ariosto, and many others. They knew their powers and were too honest to affect ignorance of them. But when Mr. Burke, who must have been conscious that his eloquence was stamped with genius and fraught with the treasures of a rich imagination, represents himself as nothing more than an industrious plodding member of Parliament, I cannot fail to perceive that he is mocking his hearers, and that he pretends to a humility he does not feel.

Now it would be folly to deny that Moore had a good opinion of his own powers, and that he was delighted with every tribute, oral, written, and printed, to his talents. But his love of praise was joined with the most generous and liberal dispensation of praise to others. He relished the works of Byron and of Scott as if he had been himself no competitor for fame with them. Another man, in his position, upon seeing the hospitable mansion of Abbotsford, might have felt some envy at the largeness of the possession acquired by the pen of a rival. But Moore only felt that it was a position due to genius; and, when the frail fabric of Scott's fortune tumbled to the ground, lamented with genuine sympathy the downfall of a prosperity to which he himself had never

aspired, but which he considered the right of the "Author of Waverley."

The Journal or Diary of Moore occupies the chief part of these volumes. He has recorded in it the conversations which took place at the dinners and parties where he was a guest. Some persons are of opinion that such conversations ought not to be written, and if written, ought not to be printed. Yet it will hardly be denied that there is an interest in the talk of men of talent which is hardly to be found in their most laboured works. One poet has recorded of Addison that he was

"Form'd with each talent and each art to please,
And born to write, converse, and live with ease."

Another poet, remembering the groves he loved, says—

"Twas here of just and good he reason'd strong,
Clear'd some great truth, or rais'd some serious song."

There is no one, I imagine, who would not be glad to have before him a journal of these conversations, and to see rescued from oblivion the discourse which Pope and Swift and Tickell celebrated for its thought and loved for its amiability.

The defect of Moore's Journal, in my opinion, is, that while he is at great pains to put in writing the stories and the jokes he hears, he seldom records a serious discussion or notices the instructive portion of the conversations in which he bore a part. It may be of some interest to recall, however, the character and type of the conversations which were carried on by the eminent men now lost to us with whom Moore habitually lived. Lord Bacon has said that "reading makes a full man, writing a correct man, and conversation a ready man." It may be added that in this, as in other arts, "practice makes perfect." Those who have been renowned for their powers of conversation were constantly engaged in that pleasant task. Addison would pass seven or eight hours a-day in coffee-houses and taverns. Johnson told Boswell that his habit was to go out at four o'clock in the afternoon and not to return till two o'clock in the morning. A vast time for these learned men to spend in talk! Yet, having armed themselves at all points by study, it was no doubt a great delight to these knights of the library to try the temper of their weapons, to run full tilt against an adversary with pointed epigram, and to win the prize in a tournament of wits.

But beyond the mere pleasure of the encounter, it cannot be disputed that much is to be learnt from the conversation of men of reading and observation. Mr. Fox declared that he learnt more from Mr. Burke's conversation than from all the books he had ever read. It often happens, indeed, that a short remark in conversation contains the essence of a quarto volume.

Of all those whose conversation is referred to by Moore, Sir James Mackintosh was the ablest, the most brilliant, and the best informed. A most competent judge in this matter, Sydney Smith, has said, "Till subdued by age and illness, his conversation was more brilliant and instructive than that of any human being I ever had the good fortune to be acquainted with." * His stores of learning were vast, and of those kinds which, both in serious and in light conversation, are most available. He was profoundly acquainted with the doctrines of the ancient sects of philosophy and the modern churches of Christianity, and he so tempered, assisted, and controlled his memory by his judgment, that if he were referred to on any disputed point, his answer would give, not merely the fact, but a condensed argument on the controversy. So that not only was the hearer correctly informed of the exact nature of the tenet which he inquired about, but such light was thrown upon it that he could account for its rise, its prevalence, and its tendency, without further investigation. This information, too, which no book or number of books of reference would have given, was conveyed in the easy language of conversation, and with the unassuming tone of an equal and a companion. Indeed, his mind seemed to comprehend in distinct but harmonious method the whole history of human thought, from the earliest speculations of the friends of Job to the latest subtleties of the disciples of Kant. With rare impartiality of mind, and a charity of disposition still more rare, he gave its full weight to every opinion, and made the fairest allowance for every error. Not less copious and instructive was his knowledge of civil and political history; the conduct of Queen Elizabeth to Queen Mary, the projects of the Crusaders, the views of the leaders of the party during the French Revolution,—all found in him a searching inquirer

* *Life of Mackintosh*, vol. ii. p. 500.

and an impartial judge. On lighter subjects he was equally at home; epigrams, farces, and novels were not less familiar to him than the treatises of Grotius or the annals of Thuanus. Possessing a good share of wit and humour, he took his part in political warfare, armed no less with the "tart reply" than with the "eloquent harangue." I remember sitting by him when a great lawyer, disclaiming, from the Treasury Bench, all participation in the opinions of the Liberal party, said, "I could see nothing to tempt me in the views of the gentleman opposite." "For views read prospects," whispered Mackintosh to me. Thus endowed, conversation was his favourite employment and his chief seduction. His style in writing was far from being clear and idiomatic; his manner of speaking in Parliament was too elaborate, perhaps too didactic, and his voice harsh and hoarse; but in society his gentle bearing and his vigorous tone made him powerful and pleasing, victorious and delightful.

It is difficult to convey any notion of the conversation of Sir James Mackintosh, it is hardly possible to describe that of Sydney Smith. There are two kinds of colloquial wit which equally contribute to fame, though not equally to agreeable conversation. The one is like a rocket in a dark air which shoots at once into the sky, and is the more surprising from the previous silence and gloom; the other is like that kind of firework which blazes and bursts out in every direction, exploding at one moment, and shining brightly at another, eccentric in its course, and changing its shapes and colour to many forms and many hues. Or, as a dinner is set out with two kinds of champagne, so these two kinds of wit, the still and the sparkling, are to be found in good company. Sheridan and Talleyrand were among the best examples of the first. Hare (as I have heard) and Sydney Smith were brilliant instances of the second. Hare I knew only by tradition; but with Sydney Smith I long lived intimately. His great delight was to produce a succession of ludicrous images: these followed each other with a rapidity that scarcely left time to laugh; he himself laughing louder and with more enjoyment than any one. This electric contact of mirth came and went with the occasion; it cannot be repeated or reproduced. Anything

would give occasion to it. For instance, having seen in the newspapers that Sir Æneas Mackintosh was come to town, he drew such a ludicrous caricature of Sir Æneas and Lady Dido, for the amusement of their namesake, that Sir James Mackintosh rolled on the floor in fits of laughter, and Sydney Smith, striding across him, exclaimed, "Ruat Justitia!" His powers of fun were at the same time united with the strongest, and most practical common sense. So that while he laughed away seriousness at one minute, he destroyed in the next some rooted prejudice which had braved for a thousand years the battle of reason, and the breeze of ridicule. The letters of Peter Plymley bear the greatest likeness to his conversation; the description of Mr. Isaac Hawkins Brown dancing at the court of Naples in a volcano coat with lava buttons, and the comparison of Mr. Canning to a large blue-bottle fly with its parasites, most resemble the pictures he raised up in social conversation. It may be averred for certain, that in this style he has never been equalled, and I do not suppose he will ever be surpassed.

It has been said that Moore was a cordial admirer of Scott. Nor was personal intimacy likely to diminish their mutual attraction. For Scott had, like Moore, a frankness and a freedom in his conversation which soared far above the small jealousies, snarling criticisms, and faint praise, which are but too often exhibited among authors when speaking of each other. Scott, with a good, sound understanding, had an open, hearty manner, and, where his politics did not interfere, a cordial warmth towards his fellow-men. His chief merits in society were a cheerful tone, an inexhaustible memory, and a fund of anecdotes and stories which he told with strong Scottish humour, aided by a strong Scottish accent. But, in order to see Walter Scott at his ease, it was necessary to see him at the head of his own table, or, at least, in his own country. When he came to London, he was stiff and constrained, and seemed always apprehensive of remarks which he should feel bound to resent. The consequence was, that his London acquaintance were equally constrained with him. But put him in his own house, surround him with friends, and there could not be a more jovial, a more agreeable, or a more unaffected member of society. Like Samuel Johnson, he pretended to no fine senti-

ment, or divine inspiration, which made him an author. He did his work as a workman; knew the merits and the defects of his writings, and was contented to reap the reward of a very popular talent without overrating the intrinsic value of the article he produced. This wholesome, genial, kind, and manly disposition is as visible in his letters as it was in his intercourse with his neighbours. Byron has said,—

"I hate an author who's all author: fellows
In foolscap uniform turn'd up with ink."

Scott was the reverse of this, and enjoyed his pony and his dogs as if he had been the homeliest squire on Tweed-side.

Among the houses where Moore was most in the habit of dining when in London, was Holland House. The conversation of that house has been commemorated with no more than just praise in an article in the "Edinburgh Review," written by Mr. Macaulay. Yet I cannot deny myself the pleasure of adding my tribute to the name of Lord Holland.

Lord Holland early in life sat at the feet of his celebrated uncle. From Mr. Fox he learnt an ardent hatred of oppression, an attachment to the leading principles of the British Constitution, indignant detestation of religious persecution, and a sympathy for all nations endeavouring to shake off the yoke of tyranny. With a taste also fostered by, if not derived from, Mr. Fox, he had a great love of classical literature, both ancient and modern. With these strong affections and decided tastes, he united a love of society, which absorbed much of his time, and dissipated much of his energy; so that instead of being like Mr. Fox a great leader of party, he was rather a faithful adherent to generous principles, and a warm friend to all who suffered from the fury of an Anti-Jacobin ascendancy. But the same love of agreeable society which somewhat blunted the weapons of Parliamentary warfare, added to the grace and liveliness of his conversation. The extreme cheerfulness of his disposition, his kindness to all around him, his toleration for all opinions, his keen sense of the ridiculous, his anecdotes of political debates, enlivened by his admirable mimicry of the chief speakers, made him the pleasantest host who ever presided over a hospitable feast. Lady Holland took care to collect around him nearly every man of eminence in the political, literary, scientific and social world: each received a genial

welcome, and shared in a refined and friendly intercourse, no less remarkable for its absence of formality or exclusiveness, than for its wit and intelligence. Such was Lord Holland in the position where he was most admired, and could best be appreciated. From want of practice, and it must be said for want of that animated kind of debate which was best suited to his powers, he never rose to great eminence as a speaker; from want of leisure and time to concentrate his thoughts and polish his style, he never attained to much distinction as a writer: in conversation, however, if he had neither the extensive learning of Mackintosh, nor the broad humour of Sydney Smith, he had a quickness of observation and practical experience in the stirring conflicts of the age, which made him the equal of any man of his time in the charm of conversation. He won without seeming to court, he instructed without seeming to teach, and he amused without labouring to be witty. But of the charm which belonged to Lord Holland's conversation future times can form no adequate conception:—

"The pliant muscles of the various face,
The mien that gave each sentence strength and grace,
The tuneful voice, the eye that spoke the mind,
Are gone, nor leave a single trace behind."

Such were some of the class which Moore loved to frequent. Scott, indeed, did not properly belong to it, but the others are a sample of men belonging to the higher society of England in the first half of the present century.

The character of Moore was much influenced, however, by conversation of a very different kind from that of philosophers, or poets. It is impossible to read many pages of his "Journal" without perceiving that the conversation of women had for him a very great attraction, and that among women he always preferred the natural, the simple, and the amiable, to the learned, the brilliant, and the wise. Or rather, perhaps I should say, he considered that the women who had the truest hearts had likewise the best minds, and that the authoress who shines as a wit too frequently loses that quick perception of the just and the unjust, the truth

and the pretence, which seems to belong as an instinct to the less celebrated of her sex. If Moore's taste in this respect may have misled him in his youth, he was saved from final error by his marriage to one of the noblest of women. Mrs. Moore brought him no fortune; indeed it was intended that she should earn her living by the stage, and Moore, afraid that so unworldly a match might displease his parents, at first concealed from them the fact of his marriage. But the excellence of his wife's moral character; her energy and courage; her abhorrence of all meanness; her disinterested abstinence from amusement; her persevering economy; made her a better, and even a richer partner to Moore, than an heiress of ten thousand a year would have been with less devotion to her duty, and less steadiness of conduct.

There was another person whose society Moore frequented with a growing admiration of its excellence, and an increasing appreciation of the benefits he derived from it. I cannot properly expatiate upon the character of one whose virtues loved to retire even from the praise of loving retirement; who sought in works of charity and beneficence among her poorer neighbours, a compensation for the worldly advantages which excited the envy of others; but among the good influences which surrounded Moore, and led him to revere a woman "unspotted from the world," I could not omit to allude to his intercourse with her who diffused an air of holiness, and peace, and purity over the house of Bowood, which neither rich nor poor can ever forget.

In the former volumes some errors have been pointed out to me, which, in future editions, will be corrected. Mr. Leevs was not the author of the words of "Auld Robin Gray," but of the music. Dr. Croly was mentioned as one who had attacked Moore anonymously; there was no truth in this report; and I have to regret that, misled by a different spelling of the name, I allowed a passage to stand injurious to the reputation of a man of Dr. Croly's talents and character.

I hope to complete the work in eight volumes.

DIARY OF THOMAS MOORE.

1829.

[THE year 1829 opened with a very general speculation and anxiety as to the course about to be pursued by the Duke of Wellington and his colleagues in the question of Roman Catholic Emancipation. Since the time when Mr. Pitt resigned his undisputed power because he was not allowed to bring this question forward, the plan of relieving the Roman Catholics from their civil disabilities had from time to time been a subject of Parliamentary discussion. Mr. Fox, in 1805, had introduced a motion in the House of Commons for this purpose. From that period the Whigs, with undeviating consistency, had declared that the claims of the Catholics were founded in justice, and ought to be conceded. The more able of the Tory party generally adopted the same view. Lord Wellesley, Mr. Canning, Lord Castlereagh, agreed with Lord Grenville, Lord Spencer, Lord Fitzwilliam, and Mr. Windham upon this question. Lord Liverpool had made it an open question in his cabinet. Hence upon this vital question of internal government, Mr. Canning was seen consulting with Sir Francis Burdett and Mr. Brougham, while he answered his colleague Mr. Peel. The great schism among the Tory party, in 1827, rose from this diversity of opinion. Lord Eldon and Mr. Peel would not consent to serve under a Prime Minister who favoured the Roman Catholic claims.

The Duke of Wellington had taken little part in these discussions. He supported Lord Liverpool in the cabinet, but would have supported him equally had he declared at any time that the claims of Roman Catholics could no longer be resisted.

When he became himself Prime Minister, he took a calm view of the situation of the country. In the summer and autumn of 1828, Ireland was organised for agitation and almost for civil war. The Duke determined to yield. By his great authority, by his firmness, by his patience, he gained over his colleagues. He then obtained the reluctant assent of the King

to announce the proposed concession in the speech from the throne.

The following extract alludes to the subject. —ED.]

January 1st, 1829. Left Bowood before breakfast, in order to have more of the day to myself. Intended, at first, to return to dinner, but fixed for Saturday next instead. Found a letter from Barnes, saying that the verses I had sent him (in ridicule of the Duke of Wellington) had been actually set up in type, but that, on maturer deliberation, he had decided not to print them. He then gives his reasons at length, being, in substance, that he has great hopes from the Duke for the Catholic question; that it would be, therefore, wrong to make a laughing-stock of him, &c. &c., but that they will watch him well, and should they see reason to attack him, will then be glad of the aid of my "formidable artillery."

3rd. Walked over to Bowood to dinner. The only addition to the company a Russian, whose name nobody could pronounce for me. Lady L. begged me to take Miss Fox out in going to dinner, and sit next Lord Lansdowne. After the ladies went followed him to the other end of the table, and got next the Russian; a very intelligent man, and much versed in the literature of England, as well as of every other part of Europe. Told me that there were two translations of my "Irish Melodies" into Russian, and that he had with him the translation of my "Peri," made by the Russian poet who accompanied the present Empress when she was at Berlin. In the evening sung a good deal. The Russian showed me the translation of my "Peri" in a collection of Russian poems which he had bound together to read in travelling. My name in the Russian was made *Murosou*, the *ou* at the end being, as in Greek, the sign of the genitive case "of Moore." Walter Scott not at all to be recognised in its Russian shape. Said that there are two different schools of style in Russia; the one being advocates for a mixture of the old Sclavonic words with their diction, and the other

all for a new and purer phraseology. Petersburg and Moscow have each their distinct literary circles,—that of Moscow he thinks the best. Generally two translations of any celebrated foreign work,—a Moscow and a Petersburg one. Read aloud to us a good part of the Russian “Peri,” which sounded very musically.

4th. News of Lord Anglesey’s recall from Ireland. A great sensation at breakfast, every one producing their letters of private intelligence, with rumours of his successor, &c. &c. Lord L., when asked how he was this morning, answered, “All the better for reading Anglesey’s admirable letter.”

8th. Bessy took Anastasia to Devizes, to consult Dr. Brabant about her knee, which has been more than usually tender these some days past: her cries this morning dreadful. Little Henry Fitzmaurice called with a message about to-morrow from Lady L. Sent off the verses, “Rival Topics,” to “The Times.” Find it a hard task now to write *anything* with a mind so harassed as mine is by the prolonged illness of the child, and the evident effect it begins to have upon the (even far more precious) health of the mother, who looks every day more and more worn with it.

9th. The Lansdownes’ carriage came for us at half-past seven, and Bessy, Tom, Russell, and I set off in it; my dearest Bess looking remarkably well, and danced four country dances.

16th. Walked over to Bowood to dinner. Lord L. showed me after dinner a letter he had received from Lord Anglesey, explaining the circumstances that led to his recall and to the publication of his letter to Curtis; was very well written, and both the style and the feeling showing him to have been fully capable of the letter to the Archbishop. One word in it rather an odd coinage: “*upholdatory* of his government.” Set off at nine for the ball. The Houltons there, looking very handsome. Kerry all happiness, and I *tant soit peu ennuyé*. Got to Bowood between two and three. My intention was to return home, but Lady L. persuaded me to stay and sleep.

19th. Walked into Devizes, to see Dr. Brabant about Anastasia. Had a long consultation with him; the state of inaction into which she has fallen lately having given us great uneasiness, and the limb making no progress whatever.

20th. A letter from my sister Ellen, to say that my mother is very ill, and Crampton attending her. This, at her age, is alarming, and affected me deeply, my darling Bessy doing all in her power to strengthen and prepare my mind for the worst. A note from Lord Kerry, proposing to take Bessy and me to the Devizes ball to-night, but declined.

21st, 22nd. A letter to say that my mother is better.

26th. Some conversation with Lord L., Elwyn, &c., after breakfast. Lord Peterborough, being once surrounded by a mob, who took him for the Duke of Marlborough, then very unpopular, looked out of the carriage window, and said, “I assure you, my good friends, you are mistaken in your man; I have rather a large sum of money in my carriage, and, to convince you I am not the Duke of Marlborough, here it is, very much at your service.” Elwyn mentioned to me an anecdote of Lord Byron having once taken a challenge from — to Chief Justice Best, on account of the latter having said that — was a great rascal. “I confess, my Lord, I did say that — was a great rascal, and I now repeat the assertion to your Lordship; but are you aware, Lord Byron,” (he added, laughing,) “of the consequences you expose yourself to, by bringing a challenge to a Chief Justice?” Lord Byron was soon made to feel the ridicule of the step, and they parted very good friends, leaving —’s honour to shift for itself. Fielding and Lord Lansdowne walked a part of the way home with me.

27th. Busy revising my MS. of Byron’s Life, in order to send some of it up by Lord Lansdowne.

[The beginning of this year was clouded by the illness and death of Anastasia, the remaining daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Moore. She was of a gentle and affectionate nature, with a sensibility and modesty of character which deeply engaged the tenderness of her parents. Moore seems to have been afraid of disturbing her mind with religious preparation; but Mrs. Moore had long before inculcated in her daughter’s mind those lessons of piety she was so well qualified to give.—ED.]

February 1st. Walked over to Bowood, with my too copybooks; found the Fieldings

there to luncheon. Lord L. asked me to stay and dine with them as I was. Went in to prayers with them; a passage in the sermon Guthrie preached, "scenes of great distress await us all," struck mournfully on my heart, which has long had sad misgivings about our poor Anastasia. Staid to dinner. Walked home at night.

2nd. Bessy called with the Hugheses and Anastasia; asked me to go in and dine at Devizes, which I did. Our dear child not looking at all as I could wish. Though Dr. Brabant and I were left alone together after dinner, dreaded asking him about her.

3rd. Breakfasted at Hughes's; our darling child looking, as she lay in bed, like one dying. Walked home to Sloperton with a heavy heart.

4th and 5th. At home at work. On the 5th, Bessy came with the Hugheses and Anastasia; a sad scene with my poor Bessy, who evidently fears the worst. On the evening of the 5th received a letter of Luttrell's to Scott (which my kind Bess despatched to me), announcing the *certainly* that Emancipation is to be recommended in the King's forthcoming speech. Could I ever have thought that this event would, under any circumstances, find me indifferent to it? yet such is almost the case at present. Did not see Bessy's writing on the cover (congratulating me on the news, and saying, "let me have one line") till I had sent off the servant; and fearing she might be disappointed, wrote a little note, and went out to get some one to take it, though past eight o'clock and pitch dark. The blacksmith's boy, however, undertook it readily.

6th. Obligated to go to Locke's to dinner, having promised a fortnight since to meet the Bishop of Bath and Wells, who made it a particular request that I should be of the party. Were I in a state to be amused, would have been abundantly so by the consternation of my Lord the bishop and five parsons (who proved our company) at the announcement in the King's speech. Discussed the subject after dinner, and (notwithstanding our *toto cælo* difference of opinion) got on very smoothly with them. Slept at Locke's. The Bishop expressed great compunction at having been one of those who gave way on the Corporation and Test Acts.

7th. Locke at breakfast said that the Bishop (who had started early) was quite delighted

with me and with the way I spoke my mind! After breakfast set out to walk to Devizes, but met Bessy and Anastasia coming for me; got in with them and went on to Devizes. The dreadful truth at last forced upon me, that there were but little hopes for our poor girl. Bessy herself has known (and been wasting away on the knowledge of) it these three weeks, but feared to distress me by telling it. Has sent for Dr. Fowler of Salisbury, and expects him to-day. Walked home.

8th. Bessy arrived with Anastasia between three and four. Fowler has twice seen her, and says there are *some* favourable symptoms, but those of an opposite kind, by what I can collect, predominate. Never was there any thing in this world equal to the feeling, the firmness, the total sacrifice of self, the perfection, in short, of all womanly virtue that exists in my beloved Bessy. Resolved, for *her* sake, to rally all my fortitude, and prepare for the worst.

9th to 12th. A melancholy week, but lucky for me that I am *obliged* to work, as it, in some degree, distracts my thoughts. The dreadful moment is that interval at night, when I have done working and am preparing for bed. It is then every thing most dreadful crowds upon me, and the loss not only of this dear child, but of all that I love in the world, seems impending over me. Have sent up to Murray, since Lord L. went, two more books of copy. Shall be obliged to go up myself to arrange about printing. Sent an apology to the Fieldings for both the 10th and the 12th, when I was to have dined with them, telling them the hopeless state of our poor child. Nothing could surpass the kindness of them and everybody else. A letter from Lady Lansdowne, offering Bessy and me rooms at Bowood whenever we might wish to go there. Our poor girl sometimes cheerful, and the night before last not only made me play some waltzes to her, but hummed one or two herself.

13th to 15th. Some signs of amendment in our dear girl; so much so, as to give us a gleam of hope—Bessy, particularly, beginning to think more cheerfully of it.

16th. All our hopes dashed; the darling child's weakness evidently increasing. Doubtful whether I shall leave home, but Bessy thinks it better now than later.

17th. Walked to Devizes, and started in the

Emerald a little before eleven o'clock; only one companion. Read Penrose's Journal, on account of Lord Byron's mention of it; found it tiresome. Got to town between nine and ten; found my room at Sandon's ready for me. Had something to eat at the Athenæum.

18th. A note from Murray, to come and breakfast with him; found Davidson there. Called upon Rogers; walked with me on my way to Power's. In speaking of Young the poet, as being a very merry fellow in conversation, he said, "I dare say that people who *act* melancholy as he did, must have a vent in some way or other. Now, mutes at funerals, I can imagine them when they throw off their cloaks, playing leapfrog together." From Power's went to Lansdowne House; saw her; full of kindness and feeling about our dear child; neither herself nor Lord Lansdowne well. Went to the Donegals; saw poor Lady D. Thence to call on O'Connell at Batt's. The waiter told me that there came about forty or fifty poor devils of Irish there every day with petitions to the great Dan. Found with O'Connell Mr. Bellew, Sir. T. Esmonde, O'Gorman, and a priest. O'Connell, showing me a packet just arrived from Charleston with contributions, said, "It is these things have done it." Mentioned a curious judgment he once heard Curran deliver as Master of the Rolls, on a case connected with the theatre, about free admissions, which the renters wished to restrain; in which he drew an illustration from Lundy Foot, and said that this tobacconist might as well bring an action for damages against a man, who, in passing by his shop, "caught an eleemosynary pinch of snuff on the breeze." He then proceeded to say that the case reminded him of his youthful days, when he was a great visitor of the theatre, and when, being always of an aspiring disposition, he used to choose the loftiest situation in the house; that there he used to observe that the *gratuitous* part of the audience were the most clamorous and applaudive; and accordingly came to the conclusion, that "if free admissions were not allowed, not only would the theatre be proportionately thinner, but (what would be a serious grievance) *bad acting would go without applause.*" Told me a story of himself having, one morning, at the inn at Killarney, got up early for the purpose of setting off

by the coach, and as he walked up and down the passage repeating to himself my lines:

"The friends we've tried
Are by our side,"

just as he came to "the foe we hate before us," a bedroom door opened, and out walked Goulburn. On my saying that from the wretched state of my mind at this moment I could not bring myself up to the feeling they all had at this moment, O'Gorman answered, "'Faith, and you were *up* to it as early as any man I know." I then reminded him of a conversation we had one night in the year 1797 (I think) when he and I were in college together, he rather my senior.

19th. A note from Murray to come and breakfast; did so. Had been reading my MS. of Byron, and expressed himself highly delighted with it, which gave me pleasure. Publishers, like picture-dealers, are sharpened into taste by their interest, and acquire a knack of *knowing* what is good without understanding it. Called upon Rogers; he had yesterday, at my request, written to William Bankes to know whether I might call upon him on the subject of Byron, and his answer was, certainly. Set off to Bankes's; found him at home. Was very civil; said he had but few letters of B.'s he thought free enough from personal matters to suit my purpose, but those that were fit to be published should be at my service. Mentioned a key to the persons alluded to in "Hours of Idleness," which Byron had given him, and which I should have if he could find it. Talked with much affection of B.; his sensitiveness to criticism. When Bankes was with him at Venice, he told Byron of some Mr. S—— (then also at Venice, and, as Byron said, "a salt fish seller"), who declared that Don Juan was all "Grub Street." The effect of this on Byron was so great, that Bankes is of opinion (as, indeed, Byron himself told him) that it stopped Don Juan for some time. "That damned Mr. S. —," he used to say, speaking the first syllable (as was his custom sometimes) broadly. He also showed Bankes one day a drawer containing the MS. of Don Juan, saying, "Look, here is Mr. S——'s Grub Street." As an instance of his good nature, said that when he arrived at Venice he found Byron had marked down the pages of different books he had been reading in which Bankes was favourably mentioned; particu-

larly what Napoleon says of him in his *Memoirs*. Found Byron, he said, greatly altered in Italy; had got coarse. Gave me seven or eight letters, but could not find the "Key;" promised, however, to look for it. From thence went to call on Mrs. Speaker, and was not a little amused to see her enshrined in her magnificent establishment. Showed great feeling and kindness about my poor girl. On my mentioning that I had some idea of going to the House of Lords in the evening, asked me to dine quietly with herself and daughters, and I should be put in there when I liked. Left my card at Secretary Peel's; thence to Croker's, and sat with him some time.

20th. Breakfasted at the Athenæum. Wrote a note to Peel, saying that he must be rather surprised at seeing my card yesterday, but that I had two motives for leaving it at his door; the first and chief, to pay my humble homage to what I considered the finest example of moral courage and high-mindedness in our times; and the other (which but for the first I should not have troubled him with) was to ask whether he recollected a circumstance which Byron mentions of him in one of his letters, and which I then stated. I added that (as it might give him less trouble to speak with me on the subject for two minutes than to write) I would, myself, leave this note at his house on my way to William Bankes's, and call as I returned. Did so. William Bankes had not been able to find the Key to the "Childish Recollections," but gave me another letter of Byron's. Was admitted at Mr. Peel's; received me very kindly, and said how much obliged he was by my note. The circumstance mentioned by Byron was, that Peel, in the year 1810, I think, had met (as he thought) Lord Byron in the streets of London at a time when the latter was actually lying ill of a fever at Patras. The fact was, Peel said (though he did not like his name to be quoted seriously as an authority for a ghost story), he was really under the impression, and still continued so, that he had not only seen, but talked with Lord Byron at the time. He then talked a good deal of Byron; mentioned his fondness for low company; the influence that the example of his grand-uncle, the old Lord, had over his mind, and particularly on the subject of duelling, which he accustomed himself to connect with the name of Byron, and to look to as

a resource and a revenge in his manhood, when under any mortifications from being bullied by stronger boys at school. This last remark, I owned to him, had not occurred to me before, but I felt its truth and should make use of it: the former observation (respecting the general effect of the old Lord's example on his mind) I had anticipated. On shaking hands at parting, he assured me that nothing had been said on the late occurrences that gave him so much pleasure as my note. Called upon Lord John Russell and found him at home. A good deal of conversation; find there is a drawback (in the mind of him and others) on the merit of Peel's conduct, from the consideration that he must have had pretty nearly the same views of the necessity of yielding the question at the time he separated from and opposed Canning on it. Lord J. walked out with me. Dined at the Athenæum between seven and eight, and went afterwards to Power's, and thence to Printing House Square to see Barnes. Had written to him before I left home, to say how impossible it was that I could do any thing to assist him now, from the state of mind I was in, and proposing to give him a draft on the Longmans for the money the proprietors had advanced me. Had sent me an answer, as he now told me, to say that I need not make myself uneasy on this point, as the proprietors were well satisfied to wait till my mind was more at ease. Added now, too, that Walter (who was the only one of the proprietors he ever consulted) felt the value of my co-operation so much that he would be most unwilling to do any thing to risk or disturb it. Met Lord Grey this morning, as joyous as a boy about these events (as, indeed, I find every body except myself). Told me he counts on near sixty in the Lords.

21st. A little after nine Mrs. Shelley (on whom I called yesterday) came in a hackney coach, as she had announced by a note last night. Went afterwards to Rogers's: Carey (Dante), and Danby the painter, with him. Forth thence to the Athenæum, where I had promised to meet Truganoff, the Russian, who was to bring me an account of the names of the Russian translators and imitators of Byron; brought me also a publication he had just received from Petersburg, containing several translations from myself, and made me a present of it. Went to Longman's. Forget

whether I mentioned their proposal to me when I was last in town respecting a sort of Cyclopædia publication they meditate, and which it was their wish to commence with histories of Scotland and Ireland (one small volume each) by Sir Walter Scott and myself. What they proposed to offer me then was 500*l.*, but, by a letter written after my return home, I declined the proposal, giving my reasons at full length. They now returned to the charge on new and certainly more tempting grounds, their plan being to have a history of England by Mackintosh in three small volumes, and those of Scotland and Ireland (as before) by Scott and me, but the price raised to 1000*l.* for each volume; 3000*l.* to Sir James, and 1000*l.* each to Scott and me. The difficulty they apprehended (I having said that under such circumstances I saw no objection to the undertaking) is on the part of Scott, who has given for answer that in his "Tales of a Grandfather" he has already performed the task they demand of him. Begged that I would join Mackintosh in a request to Sir Walter to be our *collaborateur*, which I promised to do. Went home for my letter; our darling, in driving out the day before yesterday, was so exhausted that Bessy says she can attempt it no more. Had asked Dr. Brabant whether she should hurry me down, but he said Sunday would be time enough, adding at the same time, that we should have very little warning of what must soon come. Went to Rogers's to look over the letters he has of Byron's. * * * Slept at the Gloucester.

[The plan which is here mentioned, of combining Mr. Moore with Sir James Mackintosh and Sir Walter Scott in historical works, was carried into effect. Had Mr. Moore been able to keep to the restriction of one volume, which seems to have been originally in contemplation, the result might have been an easy, agreeable, and readable work. But, unfortunately, he extended his labours, and spread the work over several volumes. For this task he was not originally very well qualified. No man knew better how to turn his researches in libraries to account, and to pick out the jewels from the stone and rubbish of the mine in which he was employed. But a critical examination of obscure authorities on an obscure

subject was not a pursuit well suited to his genius. His time was absorbed by it, his health worn, and his faculties dragged down to a wearisome and uncongenial task.

I had long urged him to undertake the life of Grattan; and when the documents for that purpose were not confided to him, I advised him to pass lightly over the earlier periods of Irish history in order to narrate at length the events which took place from the first formation of the Volunteers to the conclusion of the Legislative Union. There is much that is bright, as well as much that is sad, in the history of that period. The characters of Lord Charlemont and Mr. Grattan deserve to be drawn with a "pencil of light." Purer and more upright statesmen have never adorned the annals of any country. The story of the Rebellion of 1798, and the devotion to their mistaken cause of Lord Edward and his associates, is of melancholy interest.

Had Moore undertaken this task, materials would have poured at his feet in abundance. His country would have found in his brilliant and touching narrative the highest examples of virtue to imitate, the sad memorials of misdirected patriotism to lament, the foul stains of corruption to loathe, and the dreadful records of cruelty to abhor. It is much to be regretted that such a task has not been performed; to a friend of Moore's, it is matter of deep concern that he should not have performed it.—ED.]

22nd. Off at seven; an intelligent man in the coach, who knew the history of all the seats along the road and of their inhabitants, and strewed the whole way with anecdotes. Arrived at Calne before five, and set off on foot for home. Felt most anxious as I approached the cottage, not knowing what might have happened since the day before yesterday. Could not bring myself to enter at the hall-door, but tapped at the back kitchen window in order to know what I was to expect. Our poor child much the same; found her up stairs in the room she was never again to leave *alive*.

23rd to 28th. The next fortnight furnishes but a melancholy detail of the last hours of our darling child, the only consolation of which was that she passed them without suffering, and even in calm and cheerful enjoyment. She had no idea of her danger, nor did Bessy, nor

I, nor any of those about her, ever show the least sign of alarm or sorrow in her presence. There are some pious persons who would think this wrong, and who would have disturbed and embittered the last moments of this innocent child with religious exhortations and *preparations* (as they would call it) for another world, as if the whole of her short and stainless life was not a far better preparation than any that their officiousness could afford her. We passed every evening together (she, and I, and her mamma) in some amusement or other; and as it had seldom been in my power to spare so much of my company in this way, it was a treat to her which she enjoyed most thoroughly. "What nice evenings we have!" she would say to her mamma continually. Sometimes we used to look over together a child's book in which there were pictures from history, and talk of the events and persons they alluded to; at another time, Caroline Fielding's sketch-book and the engravings of Pinelli were an amusement to her; but, in general, what gave her pleasure was either playing a game or two at draughts with me herself, or looking on while her mamma and I played draughts or cribbage, and betting with me as to which should win. However difficult it was to go on cheerfully in such circumstances, I am convinced that the effort did both Bessy and me much service, by accustoming us to control our feelings, and, in a certain degree, *hardening* us for the worst. I have already mentioned her having attempted to sing through a quadrille one evening, a little before my departure for town, and at the same time she gave an imitation of a foreigner whom she had heard counterfeiting the tones of different musical instruments with his voice at Devizes. A few nights after my return (on the 27th, I think) she said to her mamma, when she was putting her to bed (having been all the evening in the most cheerful spirits), "Shall I try and sing?" "Do, love," said her mamma, and she immediately sung the line "When in death I shall calmly recline," without, however, (as Bessy is persuaded) having the least idea of applying it to her own situation. In the meantime, the poor child grew weaker every day, and the swelling in the legs increased. She continued, however, to eat very well and to sleep comfortably, and sat up every day, employing herself a great part of the time (for, notwithstanding

her years, she was still perfectly a child) in dressing and undressing a little doll in which she took great delight.

March 1st to 12th. Towards the end of this week she began to have *accesses* of extra weakness in the mornings, so much so as to make me think, each time, that her last moment was come; but she revived from them after taking some refreshment, and the strong cheerful tone of her voice on recovering from what had appeared to be death seemed wonderful, and even startling. On Thursday evening (5th) I looked over with her Pinelli's prints, and she was much amused with and made remarks on most of the subjects. When she used to close her eyes from weakness, she would say, "I can't talk, but do you and mamma go on talking, for I like to hear you." On Friday, she was again alarmingly weak in the morning; and her sweet face still more sadly altered. That evening she played a game of draughts with me; but her exhaustion was so great on getting to bed, that Bessy (who for the last month has slept, or rather lain down on a sofa in her room) sat up the greater part of the night. The dear child, indeed, had often said, "It is odd, mamma, I never wake in the night, but there I see you and Hannah with your eyes fixed on me, and looking so cheerful and nice." Poor child, she little knew what those cheerful looks cost. On Saturday morning she was so weak that we thought it better not to move her from her bed, and she dozed away most of the day, occasionally teased by her cough, but without any other suffering. That evening she expressed a wish that mamma and I should play a game at cribbage together, and she would listen to us; but she remained in a drowsy state the whole of the time. As she did not appear to me much weaker than last night, I entreated Bessy to take a little sleep that she might be better able to go through what was yet before her; but though she did not say so, I saw she would sit up. Next morning (Sunday, 8th) I rose early, and on approaching the room, heard the dear child's voice as strong, I thought, as usual; but, on entering, I saw death plainly in her face. When I asked her how she had slept, she said, "Pretty well," in her usual courteous manner; but her voice had a sort of hollow and distant softness not to be described. When I took her hand on leaving her, she said (I thought

significantly), "Good bye, papa." I will not attempt to tell what I felt at all this. I went occasionally to listen at the door of the room, but did not go in, as Bessy, knowing what an effect (through my whole future life) such a scene would have upon me, implored me not to be present at it. Thus passed the first of the morning. About eleven o'clock (as Bessy told me afterwards) the poor child, with an appearance rather of wandering in her mind, said somewhat wildly, "I shall die; I shall die;" to which her mamma answered, "We pray to God continually for you, my dear Anastasia, and I am sure God must love you, for you have been always a good girl." "Have I?" she said; "I thought I was a very naughty girl; but I am glad to hear *you* say that I have been good; for others would perhaps say it out of compliment, but you know me, and must therefore think so, or you would not say it." "But every body thinks the same, my love. All your young friends love you. Lady Lansdowne thinks you a very good girl." "Does she, mummy?" said the dear child; and then added, "Do you think I shall go to Lady Lansdowne's party this year?" I don't know what poor Bessy answered to this. In about three quarters of an hour or less she called for me, and I came and took her hand for a few seconds, during which Bessy leaned down her head between the poor dying child and me, that I might not see her countenance. As I left the room, too, agonised as her own mind was, my sweet, thoughtful Bessy ran anxiously after me, and giving me a smelling-bottle, exclaimed, "For God's sake don't *you* get ill." In about a quarter of an hour afterwards she came to me, and I saw that all was over. I could no longer restrain myself; the feelings I had been so long suppressing found a vent, and a fit of loud violent sobbing seized me, in which I felt as if my chest was coming asunder. The last words of my dear child were "Papa, papa." Her mother had said, "My dear, I think I could place you more comfortably; shall I?" to which she answered, "Yes," and Bessy placing her hand under her back, gently raised her. That moment was her last. She exclaimed suddenly, "I am dying, I am dying, Papa! papa!" and expired.

On the 12th our darling child was conveyed to Bromham churchyard, poor Bessy having

gone the night before to see where she was to be laid. Almost all those offices towards the dead which are usually left to others to perform, the mother on this occasion would perform herself, and the last thing she did before the coffin was closed on Wednesday night, was to pull some snowdrops herself and place them within it. She had already, indeed, laid on her dead darling's bosom a bunch of cowslips, which she had smelled to (and with such eagerness) the day before her death, and it was singular enough, and seemed to give Bessy pleasure, that though lying there three days they were scarcely at all faded. I had ordered a chaise on the morning of the funeral to take us out of the way of this most dreadful ceremony, (well remembering how it harrowed up all our feelings in the following my poor father to the grave,) and a most melancholy drive we had of it for two long hours, each bearing up for the sake of the other, but all the worse, in reality, for the effort.

And such is the end of so many years of fondness and hope; and nothing is now left us but the dream (which may God in his mercy realise) that we shall see our pure child again in a world more worthy of her.

April 1st, &c. It has been most lucky for me that I have had compulsory work to do; work which I *could* not put off, and which is of a nature to *force* my mind to it. This, with Bessy's calm, wasted looks, which tell me hourly what an effort she is making for *my* sake, has enabled me to rally far beyond what I expected, and I have accordingly worked, and am now working, almost as if — but I must have done with the subject.

Received, since I left town, the most flattering letters from Murray respecting my work, which, as far as it has gone, he is delighted with. The first time I touched the piano-forte for months (excepting the evening when I played over a waltz or two to our dying child) was about the beginning of this month, when I sat down to sing over by myself some words which I had written for Power to a melancholy Spanish air. The thought uppermost in my mind had shadowed itself out in the words, and on my attempting to sing them over, I burst out into the same violent fit of sobbing which had seized me on the fatal day. Moved from Sloperton to Bowood on the 10th, Bessy remaining at the cottage to pack up everything.

Went to dine with the Hugheses on the 15th to meet dear Tom, who came home for a few days. Had a chaise in the evening, and took him immediately to Spye Park to Bessy; she having moved there from Sloperton, after finishing her operations of packing. Should have mentioned how truly kind Lady Lansdowne has been about my going to Bowood. She had already, before our dear child's death, written to offer Bessy and me rooms there, and when I proposed lately to accept the offer for myself, nothing could be more *comfortable* and cordial than her answer. On the 21st went with Dr. Starkey to Devizes to consult William Salmon with respect to the arrangement we have in contemplation respecting Sloperton. Towards the latter end of last month, having made up my mind to leave the cottage, unless some plan could be hit upon to give me such an interest in it as would justify me in rebuilding and making it comfortably habitable, I communicated this resolution both to my landlord and to Dr. Starkey, on which the latter expressed himself willing (for the purpose of retaining us still in the neighbourhood) to consent to the sort of agreement which was thought of once before, but relinquished; namely, the taking into his own hands, as tenant of Mrs. Goddard, both the house of Sloperton and the property around it, and giving me such a lease of it as would enable me to lay out money on building, or if I liked it better, letting *him* build, and giving him a rent accordingly. I lost no time in making a proposal to this effect to Mr. Goddard, and his consent being as promptly accorded, everything appeared in a fair train for the accomplishment of our object. The view in consulting Salmon was to ascertain what rent it would be right that I should pay (in the event of my building myself) so as not to be, on the whole, a loser by the transaction; a lease of fourteen years being all that Starkey has in his power to give me. It now appeared, however, that it was doubtful whether Starkey could give a valid title to property held by such a tenure as he would hold Sloperton by from Mrs. Goddard; his settlement giving him such power only over property in *possession*, not over that in *reversion*. This set us all adrift again. Dined at Hughes's. In the evening Starkey went for a short time to the ball, and we returned at night to Spye Park,

where I slept, as I have indeed done frequently during this time.

22nd. Bessy set out (the morning being most dreadful) to take Tom to Salisbury. Had a note from her at Bowood in the evening, to say that she had been obliged to turn back. Neither her spirits nor health are at all good; and have got worse, I think, since she has lost the occupation which Sloperton gave her.

During this whole time I have been as hard at work as cares and some sad thoughts would let me be. Have heard from various quarters of Murray's delight with my work, as far as it has gone. He has sent me many interesting communications, and among others, Dr. Kennedy's conversations with Lord B. (which by my advice he means to publish), and Hoppner's "Recollections." Dined one day with the Fieldings, and slept there. Attempted in the evening to sing the new song I have written, "Bring thy lute hither, love;" but just at the last line, when I had with difficulty restrained myself throughout, the violent burst came; and for near ten minutes (to the great alarm of the girls, who fled out of the room) I continued to sob as if my chest was coming asunder. Was to have dined with Elwyn at Bath on the 25th, but as I felt a strong wish to be up in town time enough for the meeting on the subject of a statute to the Duke of Wellington, and the interval would barely allow of my doing so, sent him an apology. Received a letter on the 29th from the Duke of Leinster to say that the meeting was put off to the 6th, telling me at the same time that my name was added to the committee, and begging me to draw up a set of resolutions for them. This, however, I had not time for. Angell has signified to me that he will be most ready and willing to build a cottage for me on the site of old Romsey House, after whatever plan I may suggest. Strong, by the by, has drawn a plan for us, which we mean to follow, *if* we build. His estimate for the labour is 400*l.*, and with the materials, he calculates that the house when built would be worth ten or eleven hundred pounds. Had no idea that Lord L.'s contribution formed so large a portion of the expense.

May 5th. Started for town in the York House; Tom Bailey in the coach. Mentioned that he heard Sir W. Scott say once, of the

imitators of Johnson's style, "Many can make Johnson's *report*, but few can carry his bullet." Found on my arrival a long note from Lord Lansdowne on the subject of the meeting, which he says, "you seem so anxious to attend;" stating his objections to it. Rather puzzled by this note. Had already thought it odd that so few of the names of the great Irish Whig proprietors appeared on the list of the committee. Called upon the Fieldings; found them at dinner; told me that there was a very general dislike to this meeting among our Whig friends, Lord Auckland, Lord Holland, &c.

6th. Went in search of Corry, who had come up from Cheltenham to the meeting, solely because I was to be there.. Found Mr. Mahony, the projector of the whole affair, at the same coffee-house with Corry. The resolutions (which had been one of the chief grounds of objections among the Whigs) were now altered. Told me they counted upon me to move one of them; this not at all fair, as I had written to offer myself as "a mouth-piece" to the Duke of Leinster, and on his not noticing my offer in his answer had dismissed the whole thing from my mind, so that I had not sufficiently prepared myself to address a meeting of so much importance. Went to call upon Lord Lansdowne, Corry walking part of the way with me. C. very anxious that I should consent to move the resolution. Lord L. not at home. Went to Lord J. Russell's; found him at home. Said he did not mean to attend, but quite agreed with me, that as I had come up, I ought to go. Have no time to give details of the meeting. In the course of my walks, I had thought over something to say, and communicated to the secretary that I was now willing to move the resolution. The other resolutions were moved by the Duke of Leinster, Marquis of Devonshire, Lord Darnley, Lord Clifford, &c. &c. Nothing could equal the enthusiasm of my reception; huzzas, hats and handkerchiefs waving, the whole audience standing up; it was several minutes before I was able to utter a word; my speech too, though so hastily got up, produced a great effect. Came away with Agar Ellis, who regretted extremely the view that so many of our Whig friends took of the matter, and thought it would do them harm with the public.

7th. Staid at home in the morning, correcting. Dined at Lord Lansdowne's: the Cowpers, the Hopes, Lord W. Russell, Lord Villiers, Caroline Fielding, the George Lambs, &c. A good deal of conversation with Lord W. Russell in the evening about Byron; his dissipation at Venice; doing it very much out of bravado, and not really liking it. Used often to fly away from home and row all night upon the water. Mentioned what he had heard of Byron's not feeling any admiration of Rome; saying to Hobhouse "what shall I write about?" and H. giving him the heads of what he afterwards described so powerfully. Some talk with Lady L. (who is not at all well) about the cottage, the lease, &c. Promised to come and breakfast with them some morning and talk over it.

8th. Had been invited to dine to-day with Mackintosh, to meet Dr. Lardner, our joint employer in the historical line; but Clapham is a deadly distance to dine at: besides, I wanted to see Malibran and Sontag. Breakfasted with the Lansdownes; nothing could exceed their kind anxiety about our cottage affairs. On my telling Lord L. of the alarm we were in at the meeting lest some one should propose to substitute Lord Anglesey for the statue instead of the Duke (a proposition not unlikely to have been carried), he mentioned a parallel case in Dublin at a meeting for some sort of testimonial to Isaac Corry, when just as the whole thing seemed to be settled, an amendment was moved that the two words "Isaac Corry" should be omitted, and the words "John Foster" substituted, and without much difficulty carried. Went with Corry at one o'clock to call on Lord Anglesey, a fine gallant fellow. Told us of the King's wish (as far back as his visit to Ireland) to make him Lord-Lieutenant. I mentioned to him our alarm at the meeting lest the Duke should be ousted and he put in his saddle, which amused him a good deal. Asked me if I could meet Lord Lansdowne at dinner with him some day soon; most happy, of course. Told him of the scene at the Bowood breakfast-table the morning that the newspapers with his letter to Curtis arrived.

9th. A kind note from Lord Grey, to say that his turn of nomination for the Charter House being come, he had very great pleasure in offering it to me for Tom.

10th. Breakfasted at the Athenæum, and set off to the Charter House to look for Barber. Found him at his office in Fetter-Lane; told me various particulars that I wished to know, and said he would write that day to Dr. Russell, the master, for further information on the subject. Dined at Lord Listowel's: Corry and I in the evening to Lady Jersey's. Some talk with the Duke of Sussex about the settlement of the great question. Thence to the ball at Devonshire House: very fine and very hot. Interesting conversation with Lord Clare; his confessing what wrong he had done me for a great part of his life from what he had thought due to his father's memory (whom I had attacked in an early poem, "Corruption"); his having refused to be introduced to me by Rogers, &c. I told him I had never in the least blamed him for this feeling, as it was one I should most probably have had myself. He then said, "But I *do* feel that I have been guilty of *lort* towards you, and you cannot conceive with what zeal Byron took your part against me when we met in Italy, and when I stated the reasons of my feeling, he said laughingly, 'Well, you are both Irishmen, and therefore, perhaps, both in the wrong.'" Lord Clare then added, "Byron was strongly attached to you, and I feel quite sure that you and I were the persons he liked best in the world." Got home to bed at two o'clock.

11th. Called upon Lord Grey, and received the warrant of our dear Tom's nomination; some talk about the ball. Called upon Lady Lansdowne, read her a letter I had had from Bessy, full of sadness and sweetness. Could hardly refrain from giving way while I read it. Again discussed with much kind anxiety all the various plans for our residence in their neighbourhood. Lord L. joined us, and said that he had been casting about in his mind whether there was any thing on his own grounds he could give me; but there was no building any where. There was, however, a situation, and a very pretty one, at Cassan, which I should have to build upon if nothing better offered. Dined at Lord Auckland's, having been asked to various other places. Thence to the Opera to Rogers's stall, he and I having changed tickets in the morning; odd enough that the Duke of Wellington should have taken one of these stalls. Rogers told him that he had tried to get the one

next; "I wish you had," he said, "I don't know either of my neighbours;" and there he sits, between John à Nokes and John à Styles, subject to have all who want to reach their seats, pushing past him and treading on his toes. No doubt he is glad to be placed between strangers, as it gives him time to think, and he has thus both the credit of idleness and the opportunity for thought. Did not stay out the ballet, being tired.

13th. Dined with C.; called and left my name at the Duke of Sussex's in my way. Party at dinner, Lord Palmerston, Lord Lowther, Sir G. Clerk, and Spencer Perceval. The conversation agreeable. The King, it appears, did not ask Scott (as I have always understood) whether he was the author of the novels; he only alluded pointedly to some character in them, upon which Scott said, "Sir, it is impossible to mistake the meaning, &c. &c., and I beg to say, &c. &c.," disclaiming in the most decided manner his being the author. This was going out of his way to deny; had the Prince *asked* him, he might have been justified in doing so; but volunteering an untruth in this way is unintelligible; always taking it for granted that the story is true, which it may not be. C., however, said he was by when it happened.* Speaking of Canning's excessive fastidiousness in the style of his papers, C. said that, after all his pains-takings, he would suffer any body to make alterations in them with the utmost good humour and readiness. This seems unaccountable, but Lord Palmerston seemed to confirm the assertion. In talking of my "Byron," said he hoped my printer was a good critic, as he had told him wonders of its merit; that the printers could not get on with their work from admiration of it, &c. &c. This is all that chattering fellow Davidson. Came away with Spencer Perceval and Sir G. Clerk. Packed up and went to sleep at the Gloucester Coffee-house, where I had ordered beds for myself and Corry. Did not get to bed till past one.

14th. Up at five, and off at six. An old

* It is very strange that Mr. Moore, who was constantly denying his authorship of the squibs in the "Times" and "Morning Chronicle," should be so severe upon Scott. The person to be blamed in these instances is the asker of impertinent and unjustifiable questions. Nor does it much signify whether the question is by a point-blank shot, or by the mode of sapping or mining. Either mode is hostile and aggressive.—Ed.

acquaintance of mine, Miss Addison (now the widow Macpherson) in the coach with us; a good deal of talk on the way. On our arrival at Cheltenham learned that my darling Bess had got there half an hour before. Found her in lodgings (which I had written to Williams's of the circulating library to procure her) in High Street, looking languid and a good deal tired, but rather better than I expected.

15th. Walked out with Bessy and Corry, looking at different houses, Corry being in search of one. Walked a little in the evening, and Bessy bought some books for my birthday present. Offered to stay with her a day or two more if she wished it, but as my time is precious just now she thought it better I should return to town. Fixed all our plans about dear Tom, &c. &c.

16th. Off at eight for town; had the coach to myself most of the way, and got through J. Cooper Walker's "Memoirs of Tassoni." Had dinner at the Athenæum.

17th. Went out to breakfast at Holland, House, having written to my Lady at Cheltenham to offer myself for dinner either on Wednesday (20) or Friday, 22nd; but my letter not yet arrived, and it was too late for the post on Tuesday. Found that Lord and Lady Holland had slept in town last night; but learning that Lord John Russell and Lord Clanwilliam were in the house, joined them at breakfast. When I mentioned what had been said at C.'s of Canning's dispatches, Lord C. said that it was true Canning allowed (what, indeed, he could not help,) the alterations and manglings of his papers in council: but that this was merely directed against their sense and purport, and that Canning had them back again to correct the style before they left his hands.

18th. Called at Murray's; found the sub-committee for Byron's monument sitting; a hearty shake of the hands from Hobhouse. Went to the House of Commons early, having begged Mr. Speaker yesterday to put me on the list for under the gallery. An immense crowd in the lobby, Irish agitators, &c.: got impatient and went round to Mr. Speaker, who sent the train-bearer to accompany me to the lobby, and, after some little difficulty I got in. The House enormously full. O'Connell's speech good and judicious. Sent for by Mrs. Manners Sutton at seven o'clock to have some

dinner; none but herself and daughters, Mr. Lockwood and Mr. Sutton. Amused to see her, in all her state, the same hearty, lively Irishwoman still. Walked with her in the garden; the moonlight on the river, the boats gliding along it, the towers of Lambeth rising on the opposite bank, the lights of Westminster Bridge gleaming on the left; and then, when one turned round to the House, that beautiful Gothic structure, illuminated from within, and at that moment containing within it the council of the nation,—all was most picturesque and striking. Did not return to the House, but went home to dress; then to Sir G. Warrender's music, where I for the first time heard Pesaroni. Left it with Lord Lansdowne to go to Lady Jersey's, and after staying there a short time returned to Warrender's to hear the duet in "Semiramide" between Pesaroni and Sontag.

19th. Called upon O'Connell to wish him joy of the success of his speech; told him how much Lord Lansdowne was delighted with it. Asked him did he feel at all the novelty of his station. Said he felt that he was not on an equality with those he was addressing. Invited to-day to Lord King's, Lord Leitrim's, George Dawson's, Poodle Byng's, Alexander Baring's, and one or two other places, but bound to refuse all in favour of my partners at Hampstead. Cost me seven shillings to reach them in a hackney-coach. The company numerous, and among them Miss Lucy Aikin, M'Culloch the political economist, and old Whishaw.

20th. Dined at the Speaker's, himself being (as this was Wednesday) of the party. No one else but the two Messieurs that we had on Monday. The Speaker very agreeable. Told me a good deal about the manuscripts found in the State Paper office: those of Wolsey very curious: show the skill with which he ruled the King. Mentioned a curious proclamation (I know not whether among the new State papers) issued in Queen Elizabeth's time, forbidding people, under pain of punishment, to talk of the Queen's person or features, or to describe them in writing or otherwise. In a conversation with him after dinner dwelt much on the advantages of humbug; of a man knowing how to take care of his reputation, and to keep from being *found out*, so as always to pass for cleverer than he is: the wisdom, particularly, of looking to the *position* of those who offer

to promote him ; whether it is in order to bolster themselves up or not. The *position* of a Government makes all the difference, and in *one* state of affairs the same man will disgrace himself as Secretary of State who, in another, will fill that office with honour and success. As it was not civil to differ with him on his imputation of humbug to himself, I insisted that the policy that he had been describing was that of a wise man, not of a humbug ; that to know what one was fit for, and manage skilfully one's resources and opportunities, was the part of prudence and wisdom, not of imposture ; that even if, by this line of conduct, a man induced his fellow men to give him credit for being cleverer than he really was, the fault could not be his, as long as he did not himself advance any claims to this credit ; the moment he *pretended* to what he did not possess, then began humbug, but not sooner. He still pushed his point, playfully, but pertinaciously ; and in illustration of what he meant, put the following case :—"Suppose a Speaker, rather new to his office, and a question brought into discussion before him which parties are equally divided upon, and which he sees will run to very inconvenient lengths, if not instantly decided. Well, though entirely ignorant on the subject, he assumes an air of authority, and gives his decision, which sets the matter at rest. On going home, he finds that he has decided quite wrongly ; and then, without making any further fuss about the business, he quietly goes and *alters the entry* on the journals." To this *supposed* case, all I had to answer was, that I still thought the man a wise one, and no humbug ; by his resolution, in a moment of difficulty, he prevented a *present* mischief ; and by his withdrawal of a wrong precedent, averted a *future* one. Got home early.

21st. Breakfasted with Sharp (having first sat some time with the Lansdownes), to consult with him about my projected flight to the little inn in the neighbourhood of his estate near Dorking. It is totally impossible for me to do anything in town ; and the consequence is, though a good deal a-head of the printers' devils when I came up, they have now caught me, and are "crying aloud for copy." Not a minute in the day am I left without cards to answer, visits to return, authors and authoresses, musicians and musicianesses (not to mention peers and peeresses), to attend to ;

and, in short, such a ceaseless whirl, that if I do not fly I am ruined. Sharp, aided by his ward, gave me, most good-naturedly, all the *renseignements* ; and on Sunday I shall be off. Dined at Lord Anglesey's : company, Lords Harrowby, Lansdowne, Carlisle, Darnley, Holland, Wellesley, and the Duke of Sussex. Dinner agreeable as well as splendid. The avowal of some of the noble Lords of their having assisted at some of the Jacobin Clubs at the beginning of the Revolution rather amusing. When Lord Anglesey smiled at it, Lord Harrowby said, "Why, it was something like attending the Catholic Association." Lord Harrowby gave a detailed account of Thistlewood's conspiracy, and of the share he himself had had in detecting it : all seemed to consider Thistlewood as a very extraordinary man. After dinner made a third (being *listener* for the most part) in an agreeable conversation with Lords Wellesley and Holland, chiefly about Mr. Pitt and Mr. Fox, who (they agreed) had a kindly and generous feeling towards each other. Mentioned several curious prognostics of Pitt in his young days ; Lord Mansfield saying, "He has twice his father's parts, and half his sagacity ;" old Lady Holland saying to Charles Fox, "That boy will be a thorn in your side one day or other." A good deal of humbug about Lord Chatham ; used to mutter pompously over a great portion of his speech till he came to the fine parts ; and, in his latter days, used to go on with a sort of gabble, as if he was speaking, saying nothing whatever all the time.

22nd. Breakfasted with Lord John Russell ; Lord William joined us afterwards. Forgot to mention that I was yesterday for some time with Lord Clare, looking over his own early letters to Byron (those of Byron all, except one, which he gave me, unluckily lost), and felt much interested by them : from one of them it appeared that Byron was violently jealous of some regret Clare had expressed at the loss of Lord John Russell, who was then going abroad. Told this to Lord John, who said it was the first time he ever heard of it. Mrs. S., between four and five, took me out in her job to Holland House, where I was nearly too late for dinner : company, Duke of Grafton, Lords John and William Russell, Marsh, Leslie the painter, Rogers and Miss Rogers, Luttrell, Woolriche, &c. &c. Table too full. In the even-

ing the Duke of Bedford and two of his younger sons; the latter offered to take me to town. Walked with the Duke to Camden Hill (his grounds joining with those of Holland House), lighted by a servant with a lantern; very kind and civil; hoped he should soon see me here.

23rd. Breakfasted at the Athenæum for the purpose of meeting Mr. Matthews, with whom I had lately been corresponding so much about his brother, &c. &c. A good deal of conversation on the same subject and about his father, whose remains he has some notion of publishing. The parody on *Eloisa* to *Abelard*, so generally attributed to Porson, was, it seems, really written by Mr. Matthews's father. Dined at Lansdowne House, having been asked to Lord Darnley's to meet O'Connell and his brother agitators: company, Baring and Lady Harriet, the Carlises, the Lord Chancellor and Lady Lyndhurst, Lord Dudley, &c. Sat next to the Chancellor and found him very agreeable. A good deal of talk with Lord Dudley after dinner; came away pretty early. Had rather a painful scene this morning. While I was knocking at Lord Ilchester's door, Lord Anglesey, with his daughters, drove up to his own; and calling me over, seized me by the arm, and said, "Now that I have caught you, I will not let you go till you hear my daughter sing, and sing something in return for her." In vain did I protest that I was in a hurry somewhere upon business; he would hear of nothing, but forced me up stairs, where I was introduced, for the first time, to his lady. The girl was set down instantly in a bustle to the pianoforte, and sung my "Common Sense and Genius," which Lord A. declared to be his especial favourite. I was then obliged (in spite of various protestations about want of voice, long time since I sung, &c. &c.) to take my seat at the pianoforte; and the moment I sat down, felt that I should make a fool of myself. With difficulty I got through "When he who adores thee;" but when I came to "Keep your tears for me," the melancholy sound of my own voice quite overpowered me; and had I not started up instantly, I should have burst into one of my violent sobbing fits, which, before strangers, would have been dreadful. I never was better pleased than to find myself in the street once more. When shall I be able to sing again? The thought of my dear child comes across me at these

moments with a gush of bitterness which is indescribable. Called upon Lady Jersey, who was full of tenderness; thence to Lord Auckland's, for the purpose of going with him to the distribution of prizes at the London University. The ceremony very interesting; Lord Lansdowne in the chair. All went from thence to the Zoological Gardens, where I met, among others, the Fazakerleys; and Mrs. Fazakerley having offered to bring me home in her open carriage, I enjoyed the drive exceedingly, being languid and exhausted with the sad struggle I had undergone, and the fresh air seeming to bring comfort to me. All this should have been mentioned before my account of my dinner; also, that on coming in to dress, I found an invitation (*i. e.* command) to dine with the Duke of Sussex to-morrow, which rather puzzled me, as likely to disconcert my project of going to take "mine ease in mine inn" for a few days, not quite liking to refuse him, as being always so unroyally good-humoured and good-natured. On consulting Lady Lansdowne, however, plucked up spirit enough to send an excuse.

24th. Busy all the morning getting together my papers, &c., and at two set off in a chaise for my inn at Burford Bridge. Found the house full of company, and even the rooms I had bespoke invaded by intruders. After a little time, however, got settled in a sitting-room, and worked a little.

25th, 26th. Working and walking; delightful out of doors, but the devil within; noise and eyes in all directions. Contrived, however, to do a little.

27th. After a busy morning set off in the coach for town at four. Dined at the Athenæum between eight and nine; found my table literally heaped with letters, notes, &c. One among them from Agar Ellis, with whom I was to have dined to-morrow to meet the Duke of Orleans, saying, "Here's a pretty business; the best of kings has taken away the Duke of Orleans and the Duke of Chartres from me," &c. &c.; in short, his dinner was given up in consequence of the King's dinner and juvenile ball, to the latter of which the Duke of Orleans and son were invited. Another note from Lady Lyndhurst, with whom I was to have lunched, saying that from the same cause her luncheon was given up. Had refused Mr. Thomas Grenville for the 28th, and others.

28th. My birthday. "What, *old* Thomas?" as the catch has it. Yes, alas! *old* Thomas. Staid at home working. Called upon Rogers; found him in a most amusing state of causticity. His saying, when I made some remark about the Duke of Wellington's good sense, "Yes; I once thought Chantrey the most sensible man going, but now that he has been spoilt by vanity and presumption, the Duke is the man that takes that place in my estimation." In speaking of Mackintosh, and the difficulty of getting him to work at his "History;" though he has been always ready to fire off articles in reviews or periodicals, Rogers quoted what Allen said of him, that he was like your profligate fellows, who will go after any one but their wives, being always ready and willing to write any thing but his book.

29th. Worked in the morning. Took to Power the money (raised by a bill I drew on him yesterday for 300*l.* at six months) to meet some payment he has to make for me. Confessed he had been in some little alarm, lest from some accident or other I should, for the first time since our intercourse, be unpunctual to my engagement, and added, with tears in his eyes, "I assure you I never yet have had any dealings with but one truly honest man, and you are he." Met Livius, the opera manufacturer, and wishing to see his "Massaniello," at Drury Lane, asked whether there was any chance of a place in a private box. Said, if I would dine with him to meet Charles Kemble and Moreton the dramatist, we could go together. This I did not accept, but promised to call upon him after dinner. Meant to have dined with the Fieldings, but having sat down to correct a sheet at six o'clock, continued at it till near eight. Dressed, and dined at the Athenæum. Called at Livius's; found them hardly done dinner; staid a short time, and giving up the plan of Drury Lane went to pay a visit to Lady Grey. Found only her and Lady Durham; talked of the King's ball last night; the gentlemen got no supper, there being some difficulty in seating the Duke of Orleans with the foreign ambassadors, who, it seems, could not yield the point of precedence to him. It was, therefore, only the ladies that supped, the King saying to the Duke of Orleans, "*Vous vous passerez de souper ce soir.*" The little Queen of Portugal fell down

in the dance, and cut her nose with one of her diamonds, which made her blubber most unroyally. Talked of Lord Holland, the most *aged* man of his *years* that one knows: has been, almost as long as I can remember him, called "the venerable Lord Holland," though now no more than fifty-five, just ten years younger (as Lady Grey said) than Lord Grey. She mentioned also, that when Lord Holland was thirty, having told his age to some Frenchman, the Frenchman remarked, with the air of a compliment, *Vous representez bien quarante, milord.*

30th. Received an invitation yesterday from Peel to dine with him on the 14th. Rather amused, as I sat at breakfast, on looking up at my card-rack and seeing there not only this invitation from Peel, but the names of the Lord Chancellor and the Speaker of the House of Commons among my visitors. Called upon Miss Crump, and found Lord Dillon with her. His description of the way in which he lives at Ditchley; reading aloud of an evening all "the good old coarse novels," Peregrine Pickle particularly, because Commodore Truncheon was his (Lord Dillon's) uncle. Told of the manner in which this uncle died. His old rough tar of a servant came to his room to say the carriage was ready, and then looking at his master, exclaimed, "Why, you're dead on one side." "I *am*, Tim," he answered; "turn me on the other," which Tim did; and he died. Called upon Lady Bath, and sat some time; Murray's. Murray full of ultra-Tory predictions about Peel; that he is a ruined man; will be obliged to give up; to go to the continent, &c. &c. Dined at Holland House: company, the Lady Fitzpatrick, Captain Spencer, Lord Melbourne, &c. &c. Allen said that Jeffrey is about to give up the "Edinburgh Review;" question whether they can get another editor; the "Edinburgh Review" and the Catholic question ceasing together. Brougham, he said, would like to keep it still alive, for the purpose of forwarding his education plans. Talked of Caupbell as an over-rated man, and as now afraid of his own reputation. Talk with my lady in the evening; her attacking my "Life of Sheridan;" "quite a romance"—"want of taste and judgment"—and "from you whom the world always expects so much from;" then stopping herself suddenly, "What am I saying to you?" Told her she might

go on; that I took every thing and any thing in good part from her, &c. &c.

31st. Staid at home in the morning to work : called at various places; Murray's. Sadler told him that Lord Eldon in referring to Peel's change, said that Mr. Pitt once consulted him with respect to some change in his opinions, and that he (Eldon) advised him not to declare it, there being nothing, according to his view, more fatal to a public man, than any alteration of his course on any great question. Dined at Lord Essex's: the Fords, Bruce, &c. &c. In the evening Lord G. went to Warrender's music, where I left him, taking his carriage on to Twiss's, where I found a strange mixture of company; his dinner party having consisted of the Duke of Devonshire, Lord and Lady Bathurst and Lady Georgiana, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kemble, and Theodore Hook! Theodore Hook told me of Mrs. Nash saying that I had been to see her husband's gallery; described me as a little gentleman ("so far," says Hook, "I could not deny"), with high brass heels to my boots ("here," he said, "I ventured to doubt her accuracy"), and that I was in a hurry, going away to church ("this, of course," he added, "I did not dare to question"). A gentleman standing by said, that Mrs. Nash had shown him the person she took for me, and that he then saw she was quite mistaken.

June 1st. Finished some more copy for the printer. My spirits sadly depressed; a barrel-organ passing while I was at work, played an air which set me crying like a child. Dined at Lord Auckland's: company, F. Baring, Villiers, and Caroline Fielding * * * * Went to Prince Leopold's. Ronald Ferguson advising me about Brookes's club, and pressing me to let him and Lord Duncannon put me up for it; said I would consider of it. Said he always observed that I never talked to any but the very prettiest women in the room (I had just been speaking to Miss Bailey and Lady Graham). The view of the music room from the gallery, at Prince Leopold's, quite a picture. Some admirable singing, particularly the duet from "Didone," between Sontag and Malibran.

2nd. Breakfasted with Rogers: the Lady Harleys. Talking of the sort of mountain and mouse results of the great measure of emancipation, R. said, "all our ancient bulwarks are removed; the barriers of law are broken down,

the gates of the constitution are burst open, and—in enter P—— and Lord ——!" Went out to Kensington, to call upon the Duke of Sussex; shown into his waiting-room, where I found one unfortunate man, and we were soon joined by a third. After a pretty long interval, the servant summoned the last comer, a captain, and for more than half an hour the first gentleman and I were left silent in opposite corners of the room. At last was called in, in preference to the poor first gentleman, who, I dare say, is waiting there still. "Ah, Tommy! (said the Duke, when I entered his room) had I known it was *you*, you should not have been kept waiting a minute." Gave me his two speeches on the Catholic Question. Told him of my "Irish History," and he very civilly said, I might command his library for the purpose. Took me up to it and made his librarian produce two or three Irish manuscripts; one of them an account of the family of O'Connor, which, if it has never been published, may be of some interest. Said I should have a room all to myself whenever I chose to come and read there. Servant announced the Duke of Orleans, and he left me, begging I would wait there till he returned, and he would most likely bring the Duke of Orleans up with him, but he no sooner turned his back than I left my excuse with his librarian and fled. If waiting for *one* Royal Highness had taken so much of my morning, what would waiting for *two* do? * * * * Went to the Catch Club at five, but found dinner nearly over, their regular hour being half past four. Had my dinner at a side table. Found in their book my words of "Maid of Marleval" attributed to C. Fox. Off to Drury Lane, where I found the Lockes.

3rd. Breakfasted with Rogers: company, Sharp, Lord Lansdowne, and Hallam. R. very amusing; his account of a club to which Sharp and he belonged, called "Keep the Line." Their motto, written up in large characters, the composition of Reynolds—

"Here we eat and drink and dine—
Equinoctial—keep the line."

Most of them being dramatists, the effect of a joke upon them, instead of producing laughter, was to make them immediately look grave (this being their business) and the tablets were out in an instant. Went to the London University,

in consequence of an invitation from Dr. Lardner to meet Lord and Lady Stafford, &c. &c.; to whom he was to display his sections in machinery. As I was fearful of not being back in time to dress for Lord Essex's early dinner, Lady Carlisle very good-naturedly hurried away and took me home. Company at Lord Essex's: Warrender, Miss Stephens, her brother and niece, Rogers, Mr. York, and Archdeacon Macdonnell. Dinner agreeable. Taken to the Ancient Music by Lord Essex (Lord Cawdor having given me a ticket) and sat in the *preserve*, as the director's box is called. The Archbishop of York very civil to me. Sat with Lords Lansdowne and Essex and Lady Mary Fortescue (that *was*). Remarkd to Lord L. that some of the Handelian part of the selections might be called the ultra-Toryism of music. When we came to the duet of Malibran and Sontag, he said, "We are now getting into the New Light a little."

4th. Staid at home till one; working. Called upon the Fieldings; Lady E. anxious that I should go with her to Holland House, Sunday evening next. Dined at Lord Bath's; dinner very late, on account of the Epsom races. Company: Lord and Lady Harewood, the Carlises, Mr. Lister (the novelist), Lord Cawdor, &c. &c. Day rather agreeable: conversation with Lord Harewood after dinner about Political Economy. "The first thing (he said) I always take for granted in any position of a political economist is, that he has a sinister object in it." Gave us an instance of their theory about absenteeism, which was all for the purpose of drawing off the interest of the aristocracy from their respective neighbourhoods, and undermining their moral station in the community. His lordship a thorough-paced Tory. Went to Lady Grey's; taken by the Carlises; a small and choice assembly; did not stay long. Was to have gone to-day to the Exhibition with Lady Lyndhurst, but received a note from her saying, that her Lord and master required her to dine at Wimbledon, and "in her quality of a good wife" she was about to do so. Proposed to me Saturday morning at eleven instead. Called upon the Donegals before dinner.

5th. At home, working in a sort of way. Murray came and introduced me to my fellow lodger, Mrs. Knox, wife of the President of Ithaca during Lord Byron's visit there.

6th. At home, working, till between two and three. A visit from Murray: mentioned that he heard yesterday Dr. Hume describe some circumstances connected with the Duke of Wellington after the battle of Waterloo: his going to bed, covered with dust as he was, having stripped himself, and lying there on his back, talking to Hume of the friends he had lost that day. There is such a one gone, and such a one; and then, "There is poor Ponsonby: I have some hopes that his body will be found, and have despatched an orderly to search for it." He then, Hume said, burst into tears as he lay, and said, "I have never lost a battle, but to win one thus is paying hard for it" (or something to that effect). Called for by Denman to take me to dinner with Mackintosh, at Clapham: company, Charles Grant, Falck, Elphinstone (the writer on Cabul), and Lady Mackintosh herself. The conversation very delightful, at least Mackintosh's part of it. In speaking of the advocates of religious liberty said, "that among the earliest in England were to be accounted Jeremy Taylor and Sir Harry Vane; the latter particularly, whose book upon the subject called forth Milton's fine sonnet to him. Neither this sonnet nor that to Cromwell published till after the Revolution. Discussed the difficulties of French poetry; the faults that grammarians find with Boileau and Racine. M. quoted the lines of Boileau (the beginning of his epistle to Molière), where the *vein* is clumsily made the agent in writing,—"*Dont la fertile veine ignore, en écrivant,*" &c. &c. Talking of College reputations, quoted a remark of Lord Plunket, "That a distinction ought to be drawn between the reputation a young man has among his *teachers* and that which he enjoys among his associates; the former may be fallacious, but the latter not." A very striking objection of Warburton's to mathematical studies, "That in making a man conversant only with matters in which *certainity* is the result, they unfit him (or, at least, do not prepare him) for sifting and balancing (what alone he will have to do in the world) *probabilities*; there being no worse practical men than those who require more evidence than is necessary." Thankd Mr. Elphinstone for the aid I had received from his work in "Lalla Rookh." Brought into town by Mr. Falck; told me as a proof of the cir-

culatation of my poetry in Holland, that a friend and countryman of his, who had never been in England, wrote to him at the time of the passing of the Catholic Question, to direct his attention to the prediction, in my Irish Melodies, of this achievement of the Duke of Wellington. Denman mentioned Lord Byron's affidavit about Lord Portsmouth as a proof of the influence of Hanson over him; Lord B. swearing that Lord P. had "rather a *superior* mind than otherwise." Must inquire into this.

6th. At home till latish. Dined at Holland House; had been asked for the two days. Was to have slept to-night, but finding that the man with whom I am in treaty for the three acres at Sloperton had fixed to-morrow morning to meet me at Power's, wrote to tell my lady I could not sleep. Company: Mr. Grenville, the Vernon Smiths, Mackintosh, Lord St. Asaph, &c. Lord H.'s story of the man in Spain with a basket of vipers proclaiming their freshness and liveliness to a large party of travellers who slept in the same room with him. At night somebody awaked by feeling something cold passing over his face; and at the same moment the viper merchant exclaiming aloud in the dark, "My vipers have got loose, but lie still, all of you; they will not hurt you, if you don't move," &c. &c. In the evening Lord H. showed me, according to promise, Byron's poem of the "Devil's Drive" (which he had, I must say, made a good deal of fuss about showing, nor should I have seen it at all but for my lady). A good deal disappointed by it. Lady H. asked me to come some morning, and mark what I wished extracted from it. Came away with Mr. Grenville; made me the offer of his library, to make use of whatever it contained relative to Ireland. In speaking of Mackintosh, remarked (as characteristic of that distrust of himself which prevents his great acquirements from telling in society as they ought) his habit of advancing three or four steps forward while he is conversing, and then, as if suddenly recollecting himself, retiring again. Left me at Lord Bective's: Lady Bective's daughter, Adelaide, sung some Italian things with the true hereditary taste and feeling.

8th. Breakfasted at the Athenæum. Went to meet my old man about the acres, at Power's; better appearances with respect to

the validity of the title; little doubt that the son, whose claim we apprehended, has been dead a year or two. Two letters from my sweet Bessy within these few days, of which I cannot help transcribing some passages. I had told her in one of mine how much deeper every day the memory of our sad loss sunk into my heart. "How exactly (she says) your feeling about our sweet girl resembles mine. All last night I was with her, and had hopes of her recovery; but the light of the morning again told the same sad truth, that she was gone, and, in this world, we should never meet, but in dreams." In another part of the same letter she says: "There are three sisters here (Cheltenham), that always remind me of what our dear girls might have been. It is not that they are at all like any of our dears, but they are three in number, and about a year or so between them, dressed alike, and full of the life and happiness so beautiful at that age. There are, indeed, many other children here, that often make me sigh; and there are times when the sweet music and their happy faces and firm step make me feel most sad and lonely in the midst of all the gaiety; but I do not indulge more than is quite necessary to me, and I trust I shall meet you, improved and strengthened, both in mind and body."

In the second letter, announcing her coming, she says: "I am already, thank God, better; but it is my mind that prevents me from going on as well as you could wish. Every day only adds to the loneliness of the future, and the happy face of that sweet child is for ever before me, as she used to sit at the other side of the table. But I will try and only think of her as I trust she *is*,—happy, and often looking down on those she so tenderly loved. How she thought of and loved *you*! Her dear eyes were always full of light if you but went up stairs, and she thought there was a chance of you coming into the parlour. Though my thoughts are melancholy, and my heart sad, still I have great, very great blessings; and if God but allows me to live for and with the three beings that are still left, I must be happy." Bless her admirable heart! At a quarter past four was at the coach-office to receive little Tom from Southampton; deposited him at Power's; dined at the Athenæum; and, between seven

and eight, went to receive Bessy also, who came last from Buckhill. Found she had left Hannah and Russell behind, and means only to stay till Friday. Took her to Power's. Letter from Tom's schoolmaster, confessing that he had given our poor little fellow an over-severe beating one day, for a supposed offence of which he afterwards found the child to be innocent. The fellow's confessing it is something, though the marks all over the child's body sufficiently tell the tale. Little Tom very manly and sensible about it. Supped at Power's, where Bessy and Tom were to sleep, and home to my lodgings.

9th. Breakfasted with Rogers. Went off (Bessy and I with little Tom) to the Charter House, to inquire into particulars. Saw the old matron; much pleased with her; everything looking highly comfortable and regular. To Somerset House Exhibition on our way back; then to Lady Donegal's. Dinner at Power's, and Astley's (to Tom's great delight) in the evening.

10th. To breakfast (Bessy and Tom and I) with Rogers; Philippa Godfrey and Barbara, Colonel Napier and Luttrell. In talking of Tom's schoolmaster, R. seemed to think that his frankness in telling me what he had done was some little palliation of it. "On the principle," says Luttrell, "of Sir Lucius O'Trigger, that an affront handsomely acknowledged becomes an obligation." Rogers very comical about Bessy's denying herself to visitors. "We know," he said, "how hard it was to get admitted at Hornsey when she was there. Curran got in once, and he had a stroke of the palsy" (alluding to poor Curran having had the first attack of the complaint that carried him off at our house at Hornsey). Mentioned what La Place had said of Mrs. Somerville, "that he never knew but one woman before so deeply versed in mathematics, &c., and that was a Mrs. Gregg;" being evidently the same Mrs. Somerville whom he had met before under the name of Gregg.

11th. Breakfasted at home. Bessy with me between eleven and twelve. Went out with Tom and her; took them to see the statues of Tom O'Shanter, &c. Then to the Solar Microscope, in Regent Street, which is truly curious. From thence to the Charter House, to see Dr. Russell, the master, on the subject of Tom. Found that Russell was (as

I had suspected) an old acquaintance of mine, having met him, ages ago, at William Spencer's, said, however, that he had seen me some time before that at a masquerade at Mrs. Egerton's, with Tom Sheridan. Remarked to him how odd it was that, with another grave Doctor, whom I waited on upon business (Lushington), without being in the least aware that we were acquainted with each other, and expecting to see a pompous big-wigged civilian, it turned out in the same way, that we were old masquerading acquaintances. Russell begged to be understood that the masquerade where he met me was the only one he had ever been at, and I promised, laughingly, not to commit him. He entered my little Tom's name, and talked to him very kindly and civilly. Came down, too, to be introduced to Bessy, who left the place quite delighted with our good luck in being able to place our dear boy so comfortably. Went to the Bazaar with him to buy some little articles he wanted. Dined at Power's, and off again to the Charter House in the evening, to deliver up our young Carthusian into the hands of the old matron. Sent for Sydney Smith's son, the only boy whose father I thought I knew, to introduce Tom to him. Brought with him a son of Sir James Montgomery, who is also on the foundation, while the matron sent for the boy that was to be Tom's monitor. After talking to them a little, gave Smith a sovereign and a-half to divide between the three. While I was doing this, Bessy took Tom aside (on whom we have always impressed the propriety of not taking money from any one but ourselves) and endeavoured to explain away the inconsistency of my doing with these boys what I did not choose should be done with him; telling him that some people did not mind their sons taking money, but that he knew *our* feeling on the subject was quite different. Back to Power's, and thence to Duke Street, where Bessy, for the convenience of starting in the morning, slept.

12th. Up early, and saw Bessy off early in the coach for Salisbury (on her way to Weymouth) at nine. Breakfasted at the Athenaeum; went with the secretary to look over the new building; 40,000*l.* the expenditure on it. At the Charter House, too, 50,000*l.* is laying out on building; and all this, while the country is avowedly in a state of distress!

Went to Murray, and found Hobhouse and him still in discussion about those works of Byron's which are still in the hands of the executors. Hanson's opinion (confirmed by that of Denman, to whom he submitted the case) is, that the executors cannot be a party to any such arrangement as Murray proposes for the works, and that their duty is to set them up to auction, and let them go to the best bidder. Hobhouse seemed, very properly, to disapprove of this mode of proceeding. Murray told me he had just received a note from the widow K——, in which she quotes Greek to him: "There's an end to our acquaintance," he added. Called upon Pusey, who has been good enough while at Florence to procure a cast from Bartolini's bust of me, and is having it brought over with some things of his own. Dined at Fielding's; no one but Lord Auckland. In telling Lady Elizabeth about the scene at the Charter House last night, mentioned a conversation I had once, on the subject of *tipping*, with Lord Holland, who, like most men brought up at public schools, is an advocate of this as well as for any other abomination connected with them. "I remember once (said Lord Holland) refusing a pound which a man, whom I used sometimes to go to see at Windsor, offered me; but the man, thinking that I had only refused it because the sum was so small, offered me five pounds, and, egad, that I *couldn't* withstand." Went with the party to Prince Leopold's box at Covent Garden. Left them for half an hour to look in at Phillips's lecture *on singing*, and after waiting through part of the farce, got home early.

13th. After breakfast set off to Richmond to call upon the Lansdownes, who (I know not whether I before mentioned it) have had the great kindness to offer us this beautiful villa for the summer. Meant to have accompanied Lord L. to lunch with Lady Lyndhurst at Wimbledon, but find he had slept in town last night, and was to go from thence. Nothing could look more beautiful than the view from this place, nor anything more friendly than its admirable mistress. Showed me the rooms she thought would be most comfortable for Bessy and me, and pointed out in the corner of the drawing-room a provision of wooden rakes, wheel-barrows, &c., she had made for little Russell. After lunching set off for town, she having pressed me much to stay

to dinner. A man in the coach so delighted with the beauty of the women we met flocking out in barouches, &c. to Lady Ravensworth's breakfast; "Gad, how gracefully they loll!" Dined at Barnes's. In talking of the Apollo (the statue), Barnes said that to him it always "gave the idea of a barber." The last time I dined with him he abused Grattan, and said his oratory was all humbug. Grattan a humbug, and the Apollo a barber! Twiss quoted a joke of his own, saying, of the man who remained so long swung from the dome of St. Paul's, while taking a Panorama of London, "It was a *domy-silly-airy* visit;" a domiciliary visit. Came away with Twiss in his cabriolet. On my return found the following note from Lord Essex, who had promised to let me know the result of my ballot at Brookes's:—

"My dear Moore—Though the Knight of Kerry is gone to your house to tell you that Brookes's Club has shown its good taste this evening in electing you. I cannot help writing this to say how happy I am, as it will, I trust, make us meet oftener, which is so agreeable to

"Yours, very faithfully, ESSEX.

"Brookes's, half-past 11 o'clock."

14th. Breakfasted at home. Went to Brookes's to pay twenty-one guineas; a costly honour. Thence to Power's; to Lady Donegal's; to Holland House, where I marked out the passages of the "Devil's Drive" I wished to extract, and my lady undertook to have them copied out for me. Found Rogers and Luttrell there: and all walked out in the grounds with Lady H., who set off in her whiskey with Lord Ashburnham, while we remained with Lord Holland stock-still on horseback, and flattering himself that he was taking exercise. Lord R. Fitzgerald, who had been there some time, offered to take me into town in his pony chaise, which I accepted. Before I went to Holland House, called upon Lord King, and sat some time with him looking over the proofs of his "Life of Locke." Pointed out to me the strong passages against the Church; and when I was coming away said, "Then, you *don't* think I shall be in good odour with the Church?" Called upon Mr. Thomas Grenville; very amiable in his offers of the use of his library to me. Spoke of Lord King; his agreeableness in a country

house; his readiness to take a part in everything; drawing, architecture, &c.; regretted his embroiling himself still further with the Church. Gave me an account of the manner in which the King bestowed the Ribbon on Lord Ashburnham lately, the Duke of W. wanting to give it to some one else. Dinner at Peel's; went with Rogers and Luttrell. Party very large, Lords Carlisle and Farnborough, the Attorney-General, Watson Taylor, Lyttleton, Wilkie, Smirke, Wyatville, and God knows how many artists besides. Sat between the Attorney-General and Watson Taylor. Mentioned to the former Elwyn's story of — having once sent a message to Judge Best through Byron. Seemed to doubt it. Advised me to write to Best about it, and said that I should find him very good-humoured and willing to give me an answer. Had some conversation with Mrs. Peel; the evening most lovely, and the effect of the water and St. Paul's, &c. &c., from Peel's balcony beautiful. Went to Lady Grey's; some movements towards asking me to sing, but a few words to Lady Grey put an end to them, and nothing could be nicer than she was about it. A good deal of talk with Lord Grey about the King; his manner of receiving different people; cutting Lord and Lady Lyndhurst; saying nothing to Lord Rosslyn on his official presentation, but "There's another oath you must take." On my way home went into Brookes's, and was received with *hurrahs* by those there: George Ponsonby, General Ferguson, &c. &c. Ferguson assured me that if the whole club could have been collected at my ballot, they would have admitted me by acclamation.

15th. In some anxiety for the receipt of Bessy's letter, as the day after she left town a letter arrived from the Starkeys, whom she was going to at Weymouth, to say that they were on the point of leaving that place. Her letter arrived; she found them there still. Called at Murray's to settle about the size of page, portrait, &c. &c.

16th. Breakfasted at home. A message from Rogers to say he was waiting breakfast for me with a party of beauties, Miss Wynnes and Miss Brook; could not go. Off to Davidson's, carrying with me in a hackney coach all the remaining materials of my Byron in order to have their quantity estimated in pages by the printer. Find that, together with what is al-

ready printed, and not allowing for what my text will occupy, they will make 1260 pages; two volumes, therefore, are inevitable, which I regret. Called at Longman's, and thence to my darling Tom at the Charter House. Found him quite well and happy; everybody, he says, kind to him. By great good luck, too, his monitor (to whom young Smith had given his share of the *tip* the other night) had set Tom the very example I could have wished, by returning it to me through his hands, and bidding him say how much obliged to me he was, but his father did not allow him to take money.

17th. Breakfasted with Rogers; the Fielding girls and F. himself: Lady E. came afterwards. Thence to Mrs. Baring's (who was to have taken me out to Wimbledon to Lady Lyndhurst's luncheon) to beg her to make my excuse. Showed me some new pictures Baring had just bought. On my mentioning that Holwell Carr pronounces Lord Lansdowne's beautiful little Claude (for which he gave 1500*l.*) to be "a good *Patel*;" (?) she told me of a picture by Rembrandt that Baring once bought at a very large price, which used to make Sir T. Lawrence unhappy from its being a finer Rembrandt than that of Angerstein. After contemplating it, however, for several hours one day, he came to the conclusion that it was too highly finished to be a genuine Rembrandt, and, in consequence of this opinion of his, the picture fell in value instantly. Went to Printing House Square to look for Barnes, in consequence of a troublesome agency imposed upon me by Sir A. F.—, who wishes to be employed as a correspondent to some of the newspapers while on his projected tour through Italy. Did not find Barnes. Called upon Mr. Bell, editor of the "Atlas," and mentioned the subject to him. Went to Brookes's: found Lords Carnarvon and King. Lord C. very anxious for me to join him in a visit to Baring's this summer, as was also Mrs. Baring this morning. Brougham came in and said, in shaking hands with me, "This is the first time I have seen you since you took your seat." Dined at Lord Lansdowne's (meant to have established myself at Richmond yesterday, but Lady L. made it a point I should stop for this dinner): company, the Clanricardes, the Sandons, Lord Gosford, Empson, &c. &c. * * * My neighbour on the other side, Lady Sandon,

whom I made laugh a good deal by my account of Varley's book on Astrology, his portrait of the "Ghost of a Flea," &c. &c. Mentioning, in the evening, to Lord L., Mrs. Baring's story of the Rembrandt, he said that Lawrence had in the same manner destroyed the credit of a Correggio of Angerstein's by declaring his opinion that the one in the Duke of Wellington's possession was the original.* Lord L. aware that his own Claude is questioned. Mentioned to him what some one said of a portrait of Holwell Carr, that it looked as in the act of saying, "The original is in the Borghese Gallery." Cautioned me against the hospitable assaults of the Richmond people, who, he thought, would be very apt to pounce upon me for their parties.

18th. Busy preparing for my flight to Richmond. Our cook arrived from Wiltshire yesterday, and was despatched off by Power to have every thing ready for me. A housemaid of Lord L.'s also in the house. Dined at the Athenæum. Not able to get either chaise or place in the stage on account of the races, and obliged to take a hackney coach. Got to Richmond between nine and ten. Forgot to mention that I sent Peel since I dined with him an autograph of Lord Byron (being a leaf relating to Peel himself out of B.'s memorandum-book), and received from him the following answer.—

"My dear Sir,—I shall prize very highly the autograph which you have sent me, and for which I return both you and Mr. Murray my best thanks.

"I think I have the most curious and characteristic autograph of Buonaparte that is in existence, and this of Byron will not be an unworthy companion of it. Ever, my dear Sir, very truly yours,

"ROBERT PEEL.

"My autograph of Buonaparte was given by Talleyrand to the Duke of Wellington. The channels through which it has come into my possession add an interest and value to it, of which this of Byron sent to me by your hand partakes in the highest degree."

19th to 22nd. At Richmond, busy ; the place delicious and quiet.

* The Correggio in the National Gallery, formerly in Mr. Angerstein's collection, was bought by him on Sir Thomas Lawrence's express and urgent recommendation.

23rd. Went into town for the Lansdowne ball. Dined at Spottiswoode's. The ball beautiful, and the fine statue room looking to great advantage with such a profusion of lights, flowers, and pretty girls.

24th. Called upon Lady Cowper, having fixed to do so last night. A good deal of talk about Byron ; wished to know from her the date of B.'s proposal for Miss Milbanke, but found her (as every one is) all adrift about dates. Said she was sorry at Middleton to see that Lady Jersey wished the verses about the picture and the king to be inserted, as it would revive all the sore feeling on that subject at Windsor. Spoke of the King with great liking ; his being so agreeable, and so full of fun and good nature. Out early to Richmond ; Bessy, who had taken Buckhill on her way from Weymouth, having fixed to turn off the Rath road at Brentford and come across to Richmond. Arrived safe, she, and Hannah, and Russell.

25th to July 4th. Domesticated comfortably at Richmond, and working at the "Life."

5th. Had a fly, and went into town with Bessy. My lodgings occupied ; no room either at Sandon's. Went to Rogers's (he having often asked me to take a bed at his house) and fixed to sleep there ; Bessy going as usual to Power's. Dined at Lord Durham's ; Rogers, Luttrell, and I going together. The Duke of Sussex, on my entering, started up, "Ah ! Tommy, I am so glad to see you." Company, besides his R. H., Lord and Lady Cleveland, Lord Grey, Lady Cecilia Buggins, Duke of Somerset, Lord and Lady Lyndhurst, &c. A good deal of talk with his R. H. after dinner, about his library, &c. Told him I heard he had 60,000 volumes. "Not quite so much," he answered, "but about 50,000." Asked me when I had been to Holland House, and when I said not for some time, but that I meant some morning soon to put myself in a Richmond coach and go there to breakfast, he said, very good-naturedly, "A much better thing for you to do would be to come and sleep at my house the night before : I can give you a very comfortable room, can't I, Stephenson ?" Party separated at twelve, the Durhams going to Lady Grey's, and asked us to accompany them, but we thought it too late. Home with Rogers. Mentioned a clever thing said by Lord Dudley, on some Vienna lady remarking impudently to him, "What wretchedly bad

French you all speak in London!" It is true, Madame (he answered), we have not enjoyed the advantage of having the French twice in our capital."

6th. The Henry Grattans, Mrs. Blackford, and her sister Harriet to breakfast; Luttrell too. Rogers calling on Wilkie the other morning; when he entered the room, Wilkie exclaimed, "and your goat;" on which R. turning round saw that a goat had followed him out of the street, and came upstairs with him. Luttrell said it was not an uncommon thing for goats to follow people in this manner, and to *affect* to belong to them. Went to Power's for Bessy, and took her shopping. Called upon Lady —, who gave me another letter. Mentioned a little trait of Byron's egotism at a party in London, where they appointed to meet each other at a certain part of the room, in order, I believe, to go down to supper together. Her going there at the moment fixed, and waiting for him in vain; his saying to her afterwards, when she reproached him with disappointing her, "What, do you think I would run the risk of being disappointed myself? I did not expect you would come, and so did not expose myself to the slight. I was, however, watching you whether you came or not, and if you had not, I never would have spoken to you again." Met Lord Strangford by appointment (he having written to me to fix a time) at the Athenæum. Showed me a note from Canning, which he had lately found, and which, oddly enough (notwithstanding his own admission to Napier, that the despatch was written in Bruton Street) proved that, after all, it was written in Stanhope Street, Canning, at the time, not having got to his house in Bruton Street. This, though of no consequence otherwise, shows at least how little memory is to be depended upon. Repeated me some rather comical verses he wrote on his way home, about his own mission to Don Pedro. Said that Gordon (the minister before Lord Ponsonby) having made Pedro very angry about something. Pedro exclaimed, "The House of Braganza never was before so insulted," on which Gordon, who had also felt himself insulted by Pedro, answered, "Give me leave to tell your Majesty that the House of Gordon is as ancient, if not more so, than the House of Braganza." Pedro was of course dumb-founded at such audacity, and afterwards, when

Lord Ponsonby was coming to succeed Gordon, in making inquiries of some one respecting Lord Ponsonby his Majesty asked, "Do you know whether he belongs to the Royal family of Scotland, because, if so, he shan't stay here." Went to Brookes's, where I found Luttrell and Lord Sefton, and the latter offered to take us all to dinner. Called for us at Rogers's at half past seven, and proceeded to Prince Leopold's. Party numerous: Hollands, Carlisles, Durhams, Seftons, Lords Grey, Clifden, Gower, Essex, &c. &c., to the amount of about twenty-eight. Got well placed with Lords Grey, Clifden, and Holland, and found the dinner agreeable. On my telling Lord Clifden the first anecdote about Gordon and Don Pedro, he mentioned as something parallel what Elliot said to Frederick of Prussia, on his sending a *roué* of a fellow as minister to England, merely to spite the English Cabinet. "Well, what do you think (asked Frederick tauntingly) of Monsieur —?" "*Digne représentant de votre Majesté*," answered Elliot, bowing very low. From Prince Leopold's went to Lady Grey's, taken by Lord Grey. Some of Lady G.'s children (as well as two of Lord Durham's) had gone with Lady Jersey to Astley's; she having made a party of more than thirty children, and taken them, together with the Duke of Wellington, to see the battle of Waterloo! In talking of the odd effect of seeing a comic personage in ill-humour (as I saw Liston once, when dressed for the part of "Rigdum Funnidos;" and as W. Irving described to me his having seen Grimaldi behind the scenes in a furious rage, with the regular grin painted on his cheeks), Lady Grey reminded her daughter of the passion Lord Grey was in the night of Watier's masquerade, at their having got him a dirty white silk domino, and the mask he wore being a very smiling, complacent-looking one; the effect of his anger, as he walked impetuously about the room, was, she said, highly ludicrous, and the more angry he grew, the more they laughed. This to me an additional proof of the exceeding amiableness of Lord Grey in his own family. On our return home, sat up talking with Rogers, and got to bed rather late. R. had asked Lady Lyndhurst, Lord Grey, and some others to breakfast in the morning.

7th. A desperate wet morning. A note from

Bessy to say she would get out to Richmond by an early coach. Luttrell arrived to breakfast, and after him Colonel Armstrong; near twelve when Lady Lyndhurst came; a good deal of laughing. * * * The rain continuing violent, Lady Lyndhurst offered to take any of us about wherever we wanted to go. "Unluckily," I answered, "I want to be taken about all day;" on which Armstrong said, "Suppose we all club to take Moore about all day, it would pay well." Set Luttrell and me down at Brookes's. Went thence to Murray's; got my bill for 1,200*l.* from him, out of which I must return him 250*l.*, having anticipated to that amount upon it. Down to Longmans' to put the bill in their hands; thence to the printer's. Dined at Athenæum, and set off for Richmond at a quarter past seven.

8th to 12th. At Richmond, and working; nothing but rain all the time. On the 11th had dear Tom home from the Charter House; took him and Russell boating in the evening. On the 12th (Sunday) all the Powers, nine in number, came out to dinner: meant that they should have dined in the summer-house by the river, but, on account of the rain, had only tea there; took the children in a boat. Tom returned to town with the Powers. Great congratulations yesterday to the Carlises on the approaching marriage of Lady Blanche to young Cavendish: told us the girl was just turned seventeen and he twenty-one. Luttrell remarked very truly that the family of the Carlises act as *softeners* on society; there are so many of them, and all so gentle and good-tempered, that they diffuse a kindly tone around them.

13th to 15th. At work and unmolested. On the 15th a very pretty scene on the Thames from a boat-race; the shores and water covered with people.

16th. Went into town for some queries. Lord Sandon outside the coach, but when he saw me came inside. Very agreeable. Talking of Hall's book and the question of primogeniture, explained how the law for division of property in Germany is counteracted by family compacts, without which all the great houses would have dwindled away. The surprise of Auguste de Stael on finding how deep-rooted the love of entails was in England. Was present at a debating society of radicals,

where the question was mooted and carried triumphantly in favour of the principle of entail. Lord S. agreed with me that our hereditary aristocracy could not co-exist with a law of equal division of property. The very act of attempting to form a chamber of peers was a violation of the principle of this law, as there was no reason why the eldest son should be chosen for such a distinction more than the rest. The mothers and the younger sons are the great supporters of the present law of property in France, and so much does the general feeling influence those even who are naturally opposed to it, that there are very few peers who have availed themselves of the permission they might obtain of establishing a larger *majorat*, but have confined themselves to the low degree of *majorat* they are *compelled* to make. The present state of domestic politics very like that which intervened between Walpole's ministry and Lord Chatham; the distinction between Jacobite and Whig then broken down as those between Whig and Tory are now, and the boundaries of party confused. A similar laxity, too, ensuing in the conduct of public men. Called at Rogers's, found he was at Woburn; at Luttrell's, gone to Lord Sef-ton's; at Murray's, who was going in the Stationers' barge up the river. Went to the printer's. To Longman's: got 250*l.* from them to return to Murray out of his 1,200*l.* Met Sir A. — on the subject of his newspaper scheme: asked him to dine to-morrow. Went to the Royal Institution to look over old newspapers. Dined at the Athenæum, and back to Richmond by coach at half-past seven. Met Tom Hume in the Strand, just returned from Naples; said he saw my books in English all along his road. Davison mentioned the enormous price given by Murray for Irving's two last works; 3,000 guineas for "Columbus," and 2,000*l.* for the "Chronicles of Granada;" the latter never likely, he said, to sell at all. Longman, by the bye, in talking of my "Byron," said he thought Murray was bound to give me more for it, as being so much more voluminous a work than was foreseen.

19th. Had Murray out to dinner and Fielding to meet him; the latter being brought by Murray in his carriage. The day dreadfully wet, and all our fine rurality spoiled but got on, nevertheless, very well.

22nd. Went into town to see Murray on some business before his departure from Wales. Met Sir T. Lawrence, and fixed to sit for my picture (which he is about to paint for the illustrious Murray) on Tuesday next. A sad drain upon my time just now, and must try to avoid it.

23rd and 24th. At work. A note from Denman to ask me to dinner on Sunday, to to meet Brougham and Mackintosh.

25th. A note from Denman to say he had asked Burdett, who, he hoped, would come and bring me.

26th. Burdett called upon me soon after breakfast; doubtful what he should do, having promised the Duke of Sussex yesterday to dine with him; but still not liking to lose such a party as Denman's. Resolved, after many *pros* and *cons*, to cut the Duke and take me to Denman's. Sent his carriage for me at half-past five. Great difficulty in finding Denman's house. In talking of the vanity of great men, said that Mr. Fox was an instance of a great man, without a particle of vanity; Pitt, he believed, also. Company at dinner besides ourselves. Brougham, John Williams, Denman's own family, and some naval officer, also, I believe, a relation. Brougham not in his usual feather, but still very agreeable. In talking of Junius, was glad to find that he considers this writer much overrated; said that he had declared this opinion once in the House of Commons, in making some reference to Lord Mansfield (*quære* in his long speech on the Reformation of the Law?). Francis's handwriting a very strong part of the evidence in favour of his being Junius: his feigned hand (of which there were specimens on one or two occasions; particularly in some contributions he sent to Lady Miller's "Batheaston poetry") agreed perfectly with the feigned hand of Junius. It was singular enough, too that the first present which he made to his wife, on their marriage, was a splendid bound copy of "Junius," *not*, however, the famous vellum-bound copy that Junius had bound for himself. Brougham was by when Francis made the often quoted answer to Rogers—"There is a question, Sir Philip (said R.), which I should much like to ask, if you will allow me." "You had better not, Sir (answered Francis); you may have reason to be sorry for it (or repent of it)." The addition

to this story is, that Rogers, on leaving him, muttered to himself, "If he *is* Junius, it must be *Junius Brutus*." Brougham himself asked him one day, "Is it a thing quite ridiculous to suppose that you might be the author?" "Why, Sir," he replied, "if the world is determined to make me out such a ruffian, I can't help them." He never, Brougham thinks, actually denied the charge, but at all times, in this sort of angry way, evaded it. To Lady Holland, too, who tried him with the question, he answered, "Now that I am old, people think they may with impunity impute to me such rascality, but they durst not have done so when I was young." Francis's vanity, it appears, led him to think that it was no great addition to his fame to have the credit of "Junius," having done, according to his own notion, much better things. This gets over one of the great difficulties in accounting for the concealment; and it must have been, at all events, either some very celebrated man who could dispense with such fame, or some very vain man who *thought* he could. In talking of handwriting and its being sometimes hereditary, Brougham said that he had found some of his grandfather's which exactly resembled his own, though the grandfather had died before he was born, and his father's writing was altogether different. Thought Curran *boring* in his later days, being much disposed to argue, which was not his *forte*. Burdett agreed with me in thinking him, to the last, wonderful. Home pretty early.

28th. Went into town (Bessy with me) to sit to Lawrence. Found him engaged with somebody else; and not sorry, as it gave me more confidence in putting off the operation altogether, at least for some time. Some hitch in the negotiation for the three acres, in which I am engaged, one of the deeds on which the title depends being, it appears, mutilated, and in such a way as to be fatal to the validity of the title. Dined (Bessy and I) at Lady Donegal's; she had just received a present from the Duchess of Gloucester with a very pretty and friendly letter, which we read. Jekyll, in speaking of the length of time Lawrence takes in finishing a picture, says that a man not very young, must leave it to his executors to finish the sittings, and he means to look out for a good-looking executor to perform this task for him. Returned in the coach at night, **Lady**

D. having sent us in her carriage to the White Horse Cellar.

August 1st to 3rd. At home.

4th. To town. Went out to dine at Mrs. Montgomery's, where poor Lucy Drew has been some time not at all well. Party, Bessy (who had come to Brompton by a later coach), Fielding, the two Montgomerys, Lucy, and Miss Montgomery. Found there Mrs. Blencoe's Miscellany, "The Casket," the first I had seen of it. Besides my own acknowledged contribution, she has put in an old poem of mine ("Verses in a Lady's Album") as Lord Byron's. Very near missing the coach at night; poor Bessy and I had a run for it.

5th. Barbara Godfrey brought by her aunt Philly to pass a few days with us, having been passing some time at Hampton Court with Lady Montague. Murray (Bessy's brother-in-law) came out to dine accompanied by his sister, Mrs. Henry Siddons, to pay a visit. Murray very amusing at dinner; returned to town at night. Murray's story of a poor Irishman he met with on his way from Edinburgh. This Poor Paddy was leaning disconsolately at a gateway, with a small panfull of potatoes near him, when a dandy on the top of the coach said to him, pointing to the potatoes, "I say, Pat, how do you call those things in Ireland?" "Call, Sir," answered the other; "oh, faith, there's no use in *calling* them; we're obliged to *fetch* them."

7th. Had asked a party to dinner to-day, Fielding, the two Montgomerys, and Barber; and Bessy suggested to me, an hour or two before dinner, to send over and invite Sir F. Burdett also, who came. Neither Fielding, however, nor Barber was able to come. Montgomery mentioned a curious translation into French of a sentence of Lady Morgan's. In talking of Lord Castlereagh, she said that "he had purchased for himself the scorn of all Europe," which the translator made "*Il s'est acheté tout le blé de l'Europe.*" In another place where she had remarked that some one had a "very pretty *brogue*," the version rendered it "*Elle avait un joli sabot.*" Burdett full of the last number of "Blackwood" (which he brought in his pocket) containing an ultra-Tory article on Reform, which, he said, was but a *rechauffé* of all his own Middlesex "Addresses and Speeches." In talking on national vanity, M. mentioned a Sicilian he once

knew, who, whenever there was a question of the merits of different countries, always produced a bit of Sicilian garlic, saying, "*Che bel paese*, &c.; what a fine country it must be that can produce such a *morso d'aglio*." Burdett very agreeable.

8th and 9th. Quiet and at work.

11th. To town at half-past one. Dined at Lady D.'s. Drove out with Bessy and Barbara in the evening to the Regent's Park, and heard the bands. Slept at Rogers's.

12th. Breakfasted with Mrs. Shelley. In talking of Byron's religion, mentioned a book, "Easy Way with Deists," which made a great impression upon him. Shelley undertook to answer it; but when he had got through six pages, stopped in his task, saying that Byron was a person who wanted checks rather than otherwise. Byron shocked afterwards at the life he had led at Venice, and hated to think of it. Called for Bessy and Murray at Power's, and went to the Charter House to see Tom: agreed to dine with Murray at the Hummums. Found out Mrs. Kean, to whom I wished to put some queries. Told me about the presents from Lord B. of a box and a sword. The former has on it a representation of a boar-hunt, and was presented by him to Kean after seeing him in Richard III. Byron offended at Kean's leaving a dinner, which had been chiefly made for him, at which were B. himself, Lord Kinnaird, and Douglas Kinnaird. Kean pretended illness and went away early; but Byron found out afterwards that he had gone to take the chair at a pugilistic supper. B., after this, would not speak to Kean. He was, however, so delighted with his acting in Sir Giles Overreach, that, notwithstanding all this, he presented to him, immediately after seeing him in this character, a very handsome Turkish sword, with a Damascus blade. Sent him 50*l.* at his benefit. In talking of the circumstance of Kean's first appearance in London, I said that some memorial of it ought to be preserved; on which she exclaimed eagerly, "Oh, will you write his life? you shall have all the profits if you'll only give me a little." Had called at Lady D.'s; Jekyll had just been there, having returned from his visit to Windsor to the King, and had been amusing them with an account of it. The early dinner, the drives out afterwards to the Virginia Water, and on their return tea and *marrow-bones*.

Jekyll startled when he first saw this latter appendage to the tea-table, but took his bone with the rest; and there was, in consequence, a larger supply every evening afterwards. The King never made his appearance till late in the day, as the lacing he requires would not be endurable if he underwent it early. It did not strike Jekyll that the Duke of Cumberland had much the ear of the King; on the contrary, the latter seemed to treat him very cavalierly.

13th to 15th. Murray with us; highly amusing and intelligent; his anecdotes and illustrations all cleverly done. Kemble's opinion of Kean's "Othello:" "If the justness of the conception had been but equal to the brilliancy of the execution it would have been perfect; but the whole thing was a mistake; the fact being that *Othello was a slow man*." Kemble consulting the man for some ornament (to the cloak, I believe) to wear in "Coriolanus;" the man saying he had just the sort of thing that would do, and then calling to some one to bring "*that thistle*" which had just been finished.

16th, 17th, 18th. Sent to the printer the last *copy* for my first volume of Byron. A note from Rogers to say that he sets out on his tour in three or four days.

19th. Went into town to see Rogers; Bessy with me. Dined with R.; no one but ourselves. Millingen in the evening. His son has written an account of Lord Byron's death for the purpose of defending himself on the subject. Both Murray and Colburn have had the MS., but neither will publish it. His statement is, that it was Lord B.'s left foot that was lame; most strange discrepancy of evidence on this point. Miss Pigot, Mrs. Leigh, the old shoemaker at Southwell, and others, say the right (which is also Bessy's impression from the *once* she saw him); but, as many more, on the contrary, say it was the left. Hunt (for instance), Mrs. Shelley, Dr. Kennedy, &c. Lord Chesterfield said, on seeing some people dance a minuet, "They look as if they were dancing for hire, and were not very sure of being paid." Rogers going off on Friday (21st), and expressed a strong wish that I should come in again to him to-morrow. Promised to do so. The coaches having to go by Curzon Street (on account of the paving of Piccadilly) stopped and took up Bessy at Lady Donegal's.

20th. To town rather late; dined with Rogers. Have made a mistake in saying it was yesterday evening that Millingen joined us, for it was *this* evening. Took leave of Rogers and back to Richmond at night, having to come in again for a dinner at Rees's to-morrow. Sad expense and destruction.

21st. To town late; went to printer's. Dinner with Rees: company, Spottiswoode, Dickinson, Dr. Ure, Murray, Allan, &c. &c. Murray's stories of Matthews; his being twice in danger of drowning. Once in a bath, when he was pulled out by the little finger by a dandy; "Happy, I'm sure, to be of the least service to Mr. Matthews." The other time, on recovering from insensibility, hearing an Irish fellow saying, "Can you see any visible object?" and beholding a large blind, goggle eye which this fellow presented to him, with a candle close to it, to ascertain his powers of vision. Went to Vauxhall: Rees, Murray, Allan (the Scotch painter), and myself. The night chilly, and the place, with its ill-lighted walks, mournful. Had some conversation with the proprietor, Hughes, on the badness of this season for his purpose. On his remarking that they were obliged to light upon fixed nights, let them be ever so bad, I said that it was difficult to imagine a more melancholy spectacle (in his eyes particularly) than a place of this kind on one of those rainy nights we have had lately, illuminated and empty: "Sir (he replied), the deserts of Arabia are nothing to it." Supped between twelve and one, and to warm ourselves, had some burnt port. To bed a little before three; slept at Paternoster Row.

22nd. Went to the printer's, thence to Power's. Saw Bessy off in the coach at two, and took my own place for eight in the evening. Met Jackson, the boxer; asked him which foot Byron was lame of, and, strange to say, even he, who had seen it so often, having constantly bathed with Byron, hesitated in his decision about it. Expressed himself, however, pretty sure that it was the left foot from his recollection of Byron's attitude when sparring. Being a right-handed man, he would naturally, he said, place his right foot behind, and the strength with which he followed his man up showed that this foot must have been the sound one. This very association, however, staggers me as to the correctness of his conclusion, as I think I remember wondering at the power

which Byron's foot seemed capable of, notwithstanding its lameness, in this position. Dined at Lady Donegal's; a dreadfully wet evening, and when eight o'clock came, so did *not* come the coach that was to call for me. Waited in a worry for some time; at last sent off the servant to the office and ascertained the coach had started without me. Had nothing for it but to send for a chaise, and at the expense of two or three and twenty shillings (to inflame my other long list of disbursements) got to Richmond a little after eleven. Found Bessy all in alarm, and determined if I had not arrived at twelve to set off to town.

23rd to 26th. At work. All this time past various plans in agitation with respect to our future disposal of ourselves. The purchase of the three acres, and Dr. Starkey's negotiation with Goddard having failed, our projects were either to go and pass the winter months in Dublin, or to take a house temporarily in the neighbourhood of Bowood till something better should turn up. In the midst of this, received a letter from Lord Lansdowne to say, that, in casting about to see what other spot (besides Cassan, which he before offered) could be found for us on his property, he had hit upon one on the high road between Calne and Melksham, which he thought would suit our purpose exactly to build on. Being part of the property he could not alienate it, but I might have a lease of twenty-one years, and be in short a freeholder and only pay him a moderate ground-rent, leaving the whole of the money I could command disposable for the building. Nothing could be more kind than this letter. Before I answered it, in the course of some correspondence with Goddard on the subject of my rent for Sloperton, it appeared that he had let the whole Sloperton property (the cottage, at 10*l.* per annum) to Webb of Bromham, but gave us a hope that if we should like to have the cottage at this rent on a repairing lease, it was very possible Webb would consent to give it back. Wrote to him to say we should be happy to have it on those terms.

27th. Dined with Sir Francis Burdett, he having called himself in the morning to press Bessy to accompany me, offering to send the carriage for her and back. She, however, declined. No one but their own family, except Sir Robert Wilson. A very wet night; B.'s carriage brought me home.

28th. A note from Lord Sandon to say they were going to Ham House, and, as I expressed a wish to see it, they would be happy to take me. Too busy, however, to go. Dined at Lady Bute's; taken there by Burdett. Company, the Duke of Buccleugh's two sisters, the Sandons, and a clergyman of the name of Byron. Day very agreeable. In the evening was induced to sit down to the pianoforte (for the first time in society since my scenes at Lord Anglesey's and the Fieldings') and was rejoiced that I did so, as I found myself able to go on as usual, and have now, I trust, surmounted the feeling. Was very much led to it by the gentle unaffectedness of Lady Sandon, who sung some of my own things with me, and indeed seemed familiar with every thing I have ever written.

29th. To town for some inquiries. Went to the printer's; to Peel's Coffee House to look over a file of newspapers. Received the long promised communication from Scott concerning Byron; luckily, just come in time to be inserted. Dined at Lady D.'s and back to Richmond at night.

September 5th. Left Richmond for town; Bessy and the boys to go to Lady Donegal's, and I to 19, Bury Street. Dined at Lady D.'s; she all delight with the two boys. Jekyll the only company, and very agreeable company he is still in spite of his deafness. Gave me an account of Lord Erskine's strange history. First, an officer in the Royals; marrying for love; writing a sermon at Malta, which he himself read at the head of the regiment; taking to the law on his return to England, his whole means consisting in 300*l.*, which some relation had given him, and 100*l.* of which he laid out with a special pleader, having a wretched lodging near town, and a string of sausages hanging in the fireplace, to which they resorted when in want of food. After he was called to the bar was asked one Sunday to dine with Welbore Ellis, but preferred walking out some miles to dine with an old half-pay friend of his. Caught in a violent shower of rain, and kept for hours under a gateway, till it was too late for his friend's dinner. Bethought him then of Welbore Ellis, and went there to dinner, which proved the making of him. Among the company was Captain Bailey, brother to the Colonel Bailey, against whom an information had just been granted for a libel on Green-

wich Hospital, and Lord Sandwich; struck with Erskine's eloquence, and when he went away said to W. Ellis, that he had a great mind to employ him on his brother's trial that was coming on. Did so. Jekyll, who at this time had seen Erskine but once, met some eminent lawyer, who said, "We had a most extraordinary young man at our consultation yesterday evening, who astonished us all," and added, that this young man (who was Erskine) had given it as his opinion, contrary to that of all the rest, that the rule against Bailey would be discharged. Then came the day of trial. Jekyll returning into court (having been called away during Erskine's speech) and finding the whole court, judges and all, in a sort of trance of astonishment. Next day Erskine's table was crowded with retainers, and from that moment he flourished both in fame and fortune. He immediately moved to handsome lodgings in town, and the string of sausages was no longer resorted to. As Erskine began life without sixpence, so he ended it. What became of his money no one can tell. He had made in the course of his practice, 150,000*l.*, and had besides his pension as ex-chancellor; yet all vanished. * * * Erskine showed Jekyll the guinea he had got from Bailey, which he had had fixed in a little box, in which you saw it by peeping in. Story of Jekyll going to the chemist in some country town, and telling him, if he should bring a tall, good-looking gentleman (describing Erskine) to ask for laudanum, not to give him any, as he meant to commit suicide. The scene between Erskine and the apothecary; the former asking for "*Tinctura sacra*;" the significant looks exchanged between Jekyll and the shopman, and the surprise and anger of Erskine on being told that there was no such thing to be had. His revenge on Jekyll for this trick, having him called up in the middle of the night at the inn where they both lived, by an ostler, who came into Jekyll's room, saying, that his friend was dying, and wanted him in a hurry to come and make his will; his finding Erskine sitting up in bed looking very melancholy, with papers, &c. before him. E.'s dictation of the will. "Being of sound mind, &c. &c., do bequeath the pond in my garden at Hampstead to the Newfoundland dog; my best beech tree to the macaw, with full liberty to bark it as he pleases; but for my friend who, &c. &c."

Erskine's fun afterwards about this one day in court during the state trials; imagining the validity of the will discussed before Lord Kenyon. Lord Kenyon's inquiries as to "who was this Colonel Macaw (Erskine's name for the bird), &c. &c." Erskine always as frolicsome as a boy. Canning's joke about Lord Sidmouth's house; calling it the Villa *Medici*; lately applied to Lady Lyndhurst on her dining at Sir Henry Hallford's with a party of physicians—the *Venus de Medicis*. Jekyll's story about "Honest John" (Sheridan's servant). Kemble making him bring wine after all the rest of the party had gone to bed, and sit down with him; taking him to see him home, and bidding him strike him if he saw him getting into a row. Kemble quarrelling with the coachman, and "Honest John" obeying him; upon which Kemble turned to and gave him a desperate licking, &c. &c. Bessy joined us in the evening from her mother's, and was much amused with Jekyll's fun.

7th. At work in the morning. Dined at Lady D.'s, and went in the evening, Bessy, Barbara, Tom, Russell, and myself, to the Surrey Theatre. Elliston hearing I was in the house, came to the box. Not home till between one and two.

11th. Took them to Sir T. Lawrence's; very civil to Bessy; asking her wishes and notions respecting the picture he is about to paint of me. Thence to Chantrey's; he himself in the country. Bessy a good deal affected by his monumental groups. Then to call on Mrs. Siddons at Bayswater. In the evening to Astley's.

13th. Breakfasted at Lady D.'s, and went with Bessy, Barbara, and Tom, to the Warwick Street chapel: music, though not so good as when the best singers are there, charming. Dined at Lady D.'s. Slept at the Gloucester Coffee House in order to see Bessy off in the morning.

14th. Up at six, and off to Curzon Street. Brought Bessy and the two boys and Hannah to the coach, and saw them off. Not well all day; tried to work, but could not. A note from the Donegals to come and meet Mrs. Stratford Canning at dinner. Did so. The dinner and talk revived me. In the evening sung alone and with Barbara; and as well as in my best times.

15th. At work seven hours and a half. Dined alone at the Athenæum.

16th. To Holland House. At dinner, Duke of Bedford and young Dundas. Slept there.

17th. Lord Holland came and sat with me in my bedroom some time. Walked into town; back to dinner: company, Mr. and Mrs. Calcott, Leslie, and young Dundas, &c. Leslie's description of Sir W. Scott when he (Leslie) went to Abbotsford to paint him. Scott thinking that it was the same as with Chantrey, who let him move about and turn as he pleased while making his bust, said to Leslie, "You will see me, you know, about the house and at breakfast and at dinner, which, of course, will be enough for you." Lord H. referring to Erasmus (one of whose large folios he read through last year) to see who was the painter he mentions as having (besides Holbein) painted him, found it was Albert Durer. Question, whether the portrait is in England? Lord H. delighted to find Erasmus's authority for Burgundy not being heating. Slept there.

18th. Sir F. Burdett to breakfast; promised to come out to dine with him on Friday next. Mentioned his having given a guinea, by mistake, to a beggar, and saying to him, "You are in luck, my good fellow, I meant to have given you only a shilling; but as you have it, you may keep it." This was told *à propos* to some other stories. One by Lord Holland, of Erskine having once dropped 20,000*l.* of stock out of his pocket in a shop; and discovering his loss, after some time, running back and finding it still on the floor of the shop, it being some sort of shop where there were cuttings of paper lying about, which prevented these others from being noticed. Rogers tells of Tennant, that, having lost sixpence one day when a boy, on coming back to the spot next day to look for it, he found sixpence in *halfpence* in its place. Talk of foreign politics and Russia. Lord Holland all for Russia, and says it has been always the natural side of England. Even in the affair of Oekzakow, Pitt did not (he says) profess to act against Russia so much as in favour of Prussia. Lady Holland has at last taken the trouble of looking out Byron's letters to Lord Holland for me. Went into town. Charles Greville, at Brookes's, offered me the use of his carriage and horses during the two months he is about to be away from town. Returned to Holland House to dinner: company Sir T. Lawrence, Lord Essex, Woolriche, &c. My Lady unwilling to let me

go and dine with Lord Essex to-morrow. Slept.

19th. Busy after breakfast copying out Byron's letters. Staid some time with Lord Holland in his own room. Read me some of the materials he is collecting for the life of Mr. Fox. Many curious anecdotes from the unpublished papers of H. Walpole, with remarks upon them, pointing out their inaccuracies, &c. &c., by Lord Holland. Walpole's account of the dissipation and extravagance of the two Foxes almost incredible.

20th. At work all day. Dined at Lady Donegal's.

21st. Took C. Greville to see Lawrence's pictures. Said, in looking at the portrait of Canning (for Peel), that he could imagine him speaking those very words, in his great Portuguese speech: "Here I plant my standard, and where the standard of Britain is planted, no oppressor can ever come." * These *are* the words (said Lawrence) which I had in my mind in painting him. Greville talked of his delight at some of my squibs, particularly

"Who the devil, he humbly begs to know,
Are Lord Glandine and Lord Dunlop?"

Went to Murray's, to Longman's, and to the printer's. Was to have dined with Lord Essex, but fatigued by my walk into the city, stopped short on my way back at the Athenæum, and dined. James Smith at a neighbouring table; agreed to go with him to see the new piece at the Haymarket. Quoted a well-rhymed epigram he had found in some old magazine:—

"The truth is—if one may say so without shocking 'em—
or,

"The truth to declare—if one may without shocking 'em—
The nation's asleep—and the minister Rockingham."

The following also of his brother Horace's:—

"I cannot comprehend, says Dick,
What 'tis that makes my legs so thick;
You cannot comprehend, says Harry,
How great a calf they have to carry."

Mentioned an anecdote told by Croker as one of the happiest things he ever heard. Fencelon, who had often teased Richelieu (and ineffectually it would seem) for subscriptions to charitable undertakings, was one day telling

* "We go to plant the standard of England on the well-known heights of Lisbon. Where that standard is planted, foreign dominion shall not come."—*Canning's Speeches*, vol. vi. p. 92.

him that he had just seen his picture. "And did you ask it for a subscription," said Riche-lieu sneeringly. "No, I saw there was no chance," replied the other; "it was so like you." (Resembles the epigram, "Come hither, Sir John.")

23rd. To Holland House; used Greville's carriage, and took Woolriche. As I was about to take my place next Lord Holland at dinner, my Lady said, "No, come up here," ordering me to another seat. "So you have taken Moore from me," said Lord Holland, with the look of a disappointed schoolboy: company, Lord Porchester, Sharpe, W. Ponsonby, &c. &c. Slept there.

24th. Conversation after breakfast about Mackintosh. I said he was the only man that, in abundant stores of knowledge, and in the power of generalising and bringing his knowledge to bear, gave me an idea of what Burke must have been. This brought on a comparison between him and Burke. Sharpe mentioned a habit Mackintosh used to have of lifting up his heel, and looking down and whistling at it. In speaking of the Archbishop of Tuam's strange speech on the Catholic Question, Lord Holland imitated Horsley in his speech on the Slave Trade, "What does the Holy Apostle say," &c.; and then, when some Peers laughed, "My Lords, when I quote the words of the Holy Apostle, I expect to be listened to, not only with awe, but with reverence." Went in to the town to the printer's, about Byron's letters to Lord Holland: at dinner Lord H. again referred to Horsley's speech, and most amusingly gave an imitation of another passage, where he said, "My Lords, we have the authority of Mr. Mungo Park, that to such a pitch of elegance and refinement has Africa advanced, that in the bosom, in the very heart of that calumniated country, there are women to be found wearing white petticoats." Lord Thurlow, in answering this part of his speech, said, in his peculiar way, "With respect to what the Right Rev. Prelate has said of the *black* women in the white petticoats," &c. &c. Another time, when Lord Stormont (I think) had quoted some resolutions which he had heard brought forward at the Freemasons' Tavern, Lord Thurlow, in answering him, said, "In regard to what the Noble Lord may have happened to hear at the ale-house," &c.: com-

pany at dinner, Burdett, Lord and Lady Dudley Stuart, Byng, &c. &c.

25th. Sat to Lawrence: this the third time of sitting. Began an entirely new picture, having seen Shee's portrait of me at Holland House, that he had taken the same view of the face with him, and wishing to have one different. In talking of Sir J. Reynolds's tapering-chinned faces, said ("in confidence," as he impressed upon me) that the fact was, Sir Joshua was not sufficiently acquainted with drawing to venture out of that one particular style of beauty; and hence the mannerism of his fancy heads. Returned home to work a little, and at four started for Burdett's (at Richmond) in his cabriolet, which he left in town to bring me: company at dinner, the Dudley Stuarts, Brownlow, and George Sinclair. Found G. Sinclair to be the same whom Byron mentions in one of his journals "a prodigy of school learning." Music in the evening. Lady D. Stuart sang some songs of the Roman peasants, and Clara Burdett also some Italian and Spanish songs to the guitar. Slept there.

26th. After breakfast, Burdett accompanied me to the coach-office. Found the coach not quite ready, and walked on with him, intending to be taken up on the road; but being engaged in conversation, took the wrong road, and had to walk all the way to Putney, and get from thence as I could in a Fulham coach. Talk chiefly about religion.

27th. At work in the morning. To Holland House to dinner, taking Irving and Newton in *my carriage* with me. Lord H. had mentioned to me a curious speech imputed to Lord Chatham (by Walpole, I think), in which, observing some of the Lords smile at the high-flown way in which he spoke of the Livery of London, he said, "My Lords, the Livery of London is the most ancient body connected with our institutions. My Lords, when Cæsar landed in England, he found the Livery of London existing and flourishing!" Showed me now a printed report of the speech, from which it appears he must have said something pretty nearly, if not to the full, as absurd as this; the report representing him as asserting that, at the time of Cæsar's landing, Arviragus was Lord Mayor of London. Returned at night.

28th. Dined with Bailey in Seymour Place:

company, David Bailey, Ben King, Prendergast, &c. &c. Talked of Canning's suffering under the attack of Lord Grey during his ministry; was like a man frantic, and in his first paroxysm declared that he must have himself called up to the other House to answer it. Sloperton Cottage, after all, to be ours. Somebody at dinner said that the watchmen in Portugal (who proclaim the state of the weather as ours used to do) are called *serenos*; and if this be true, it tells well for the climate.

29th. Dinner at Lord Essex's: the Tiers, Ben King again, Lord Clifden, &c. &c. A good many particulars about the Duke of Wellington's duel with Lord Winchelsea; the awkwardness of the Duke's sending a government messenger with his letter to Lord Winchelsea's country-house; the messenger arriving at dinner-time, and the *éclat* such a circumstance naturally made. I think I should not hesitate to trust *my wife* under such circumstances, having always impressed upon her the *rital* importance of a man's honour on these occasions. Brought home by Lord Clifden.

30th. At work, as I endeavour to be most mornings. Asked to Lord Essex's, but had to meet my dear little Tom at the coach-office, from Wiltshire, and deposit him at the Charter House. Did so; and having seen him safe in the matron's hands, dined at the Athenæum between eight and nine.

October 1st. Saw Luttrell at Brookes's, just arrived from Lord Bathurst's, when he told me I had been invited also, from their thinking that he was on a visit to me when they wrote to ask him. * * * By the bye, I have found in some book those lines of Foscolo's on Machiavel and Petrarch which he once repeated to me as some of the best he had ever written, and which I find I had but imperfectly remembered. Here they are:—

"Vidi ove posa il corpo di quel grande,
Chi temprando lo scettro a' regnatori
Gli allor ne s'fonda
E tu*, i cari parenti e l'idioma,
Desti a quel dolce di Calliope labbro,
Che Amore in Grecia nudo, e nudo in Roma,
D' un velo candidissimo ornando,
Rendea nel grembo a Venere Celeste."

Company at Byng's, Sir C. Bagot, Vesey, Fitzgerald, Newton, Irving, and Luttrell, who,

* Florence.

on hearing I was to dine there, offered himself. Rather amusing.

2nd. Dined at Lady Donegal's, to meet Lord Clifden, Irving, Newton, young Jekyll, and Luttrell; the latter asked by me. Singing in the evening.

3rd. Called upon Dr. Lardner after breakfast to fix about taking him out to the Longmans to day. Showed me some proofs of Sir W. Scott's "Scottish History;" complained grievously of the trouble he gives with corrections, and the extreme carelessness of his first manuscript, as to style, &c. &c.; repetitions and clumsinesses without end; is sure he must always have somebody "to look after him" in such points. Lardner also gave me to look over the proofs of Mackintosh's commencement of his "History;" the Introduction, and part of First Chapter. Mackintosh's corrections also elaborate, notwithstanding the carefulness of his first copy. To Hampstead at five, taking Lardner and Brown in the carriage with me; singing in the evening.

4th. Called for by Mrs. Shelley to take me to Barnes's at Barnes Terrace, where he has had a house for the summer. Stopped at Holland House; saw Lord H. Mentioned Pitt's having been guilty of a false quantity, which I was not before aware of, "*capit opes*" instead of "*ducit*." John Hunter once saying to Lord Holland, "If you wish to see a great man you have one before you. I consider myself a greater man than Sir Isaac Newton." Explained then why; that discoveries which lengthen life and alleviate sufferings are of infinitely more importance to mankind than any thing relating to the stars, &c. &c.

5th. Dined at Murray's: company, James Smith, Irving, Newton, Mr. and Mrs. Rogerson, &c. Criticisms of some one on Kemble's (I think) acting of Don Felix: "Too much of the *Don*, and not enough of the *Felix*." Charles Lamb sitting next some chattering woman at dinner; observing he didn't attend to her, "You don't seem (said the lady) to be at all the better for what I have been saying to you." "No, Ma'am" (he answered), but this gentleman at the other side of me must, for it all came in at one ear and went out at the other." Bannister's melancholy at finding himself sixty-five, exactly the number of his own house. Looking up at the plate on the door, and soliloquising, "Aye, you needn't tell

me, I know it; you told me the same thing yesterday.' Received to-day a letter from Madame Guiccioli in English. Henry Fox delivered me a message from her the other night with respect to her family *living upon* Byron, which, if I could collect rightly from him, she wished me to contradict. Confirmed what Lord W. Russell told me of her enthusiasm for Byron's memory, but advised me not to make her *too much* of a "*héroïne de roman*."

6th. Dined at Holland House; went in G.'s carriage. Company, Lady Hardy and daughters, Lord Castlereagh, Lord Seaford, &c. &c. Home at night.

7th. Sat to Lawrence; his portrait of the Duke of Wellington scratching his elbow, a frequent trick of his. Mentioned it once to the Duke: "Me!" he exclaimed, "me have such a trick! I'm sure I haven't:" and all the while he was speaking his fingers were unconsciously at work at the elbow. Called for by Mrs. Shelley in her job; the day desperate; storms of wind, snow, &c. Drove to the Charter House, to see dear Tom, who came to me with his bare head all feathered with snow. Mrs. Shelley's admiration of him; said she could have sworn he was the image of his mother; "there was all the woman in his face, particularly at the rise of the cheek near the eyes." Dined at Lord Essex's to go and see Miss Kemble, a girl of wonderful promise. After her potion scene, went behind and was taken by Charles Kemble to her dressing-room.

8th. Set off in the coach for Bowood. Stopped at Buckhill, where I found Bessy and Russell comfortably established. Had dinner there, and walked to Bowood (Lady Lansdowne having sent down the key of the pleasure-grounds for me) between eight and nine. Found Miss Ricardo with them.

9th, 10th. On the 10th met the builders on the subject of the cottage, and discussed their plan with them. Drove with Bessy to the lodge, which Dr. Starkey offers us for the winter; met himself there. Nothing could be more kind. Thence to Wyatt's, where there are lodgings we can have for five guineas the half-year's rent. The lodge, of course, a far better residence, but lonely, and too far from Sloperton. Almost fixed to take Wyatt's. Went to Sloperton: looking dismal, but still homelike.

11th, 12th. On the 12th walked to Sloperton to meet Bess; thence to Spyke Park. Dinner at Bowood; the Starkeys, Bowleses, Moneyweather, &c. &c.

13th. The Lansdownes left home for Mrs. Ricardo's, and I dined with Bessy at Buckhill.

15th. To Bath with Bessy to make purchases, carpets, chimney-pieces, &c. &c. In the carpet shop (in Milsom Street), when I gave a cheque for the money, and my signature betrayed who I was, a strong sensation evident through the whole establishment, to Bessy's great amusement; and at last the master of the shop (a very respectable looking old person), after gazing earnestly at me for some time, approached me, and said, "Mr. Moore, I cannot say how much I feel honoured, &c. &c.," and then requested that I would allow him to have the satisfaction of shaking hands with one "to whom he was indebted for such, &c. &c." When we left the shop Bessy said, "What a nice old man! I was very near asking him whether he would like to shake hands with the poet's *wife* too." Had a snug dinner of mutton-chops at Hughes's on returning. Found the Abercrombies at Bowood, arrived to-day.

19th to 23rd. For the remaining week I passed at Bowood had no time to journalise; the little I was able to do at my work and the society of the house taking up every minute of my day, besides visits to Bessy, who being so near the gate of the pleasure-grounds had frequent calls from me. The after-breakfast conversations (generally agreeable) lasted usually into the middle of the day, and in the evenings Lady Macdonald and I sang. Here follow a few things I remember from our talks. Louis Dixhuit's cook said to his royal master's physician, on the latter expostulating with him on the high seasoning of some of his dishes, "*M. le Médecin c'est à moi de faire manger Sa Majesté; c'est à vous de le faire digérer.*" In talking of the horror some people have of innovations, some one told of a very religious Frenchwoman saying of conductors, which she looked upon as a most impious invention: "*Je le regarde comme un autre coup de lance que l'on met dans le sein de notre Seigneur J. C.*" Randal Jackson once said in the House of Commons, "If this bill should pass into a law, I shall expect to see the city of

London left to warble her native wood-notes wild in some vast wilderness." Baring told me as an instance of the precarious value of pictures, that a supposed Correggio, bought by Lord Grosvenor for 5000 guineas, was afterwards, on being discovered *not* to be a Correggio, sold at a sale for 500*l*. Lord Lansdowne's story of a Fitzmaurice coming to beg of him, and claiming to be a relation. Gave him a pound note, with which the Fitzmaurice went to a public-house and got roaring drunk. On his sallying out into the street, the first object that caught his eye was Hat Vaughan, whom he flew at instantly, and would soon have demolished both his hat and himself had not somebody interfered. All the watchman could get out of him was, that he was a cousin of Lord Lansdowne, who had given him a pound note, for the purpose, it would appear, from the fellow's account, of setting him at old Vaughan's hat.

24th. Meant to have been off to-day, and had taken my place; but my kind hosts expressed such anxiety for me to stay till Saturday, that I consented. Wrote to Lord Essex to announce my coming, and to say that Abercrombie would be soon after me.

26th. Breakfasted with Bessy at Hughes's, and started for town. Supped at Power's.

November 1st. Dined with Lord Essex. Working away at proofs every morning.

2nd. At the White Horse Cellar at four to accompany Croker to Moulsey. Smith (of the "Rejected Addresses") with us. At dinner, besides Croker's family, a Mr. Follett. To Justice Parke's brother, who is a great church-goer, some one applied the words, *Parcus deorum cultor*. Bentley once wrote to Walpole, "Why do you complain of the badness of the summer? As for me, I always have my summers from Newcastle."

3rd. Went over in Croker's cab to Richmond, and there took the coach to town. Dined at Lord Essex's; Captain and Mrs. Montague, Mr. and Mrs. Hibbert, and Woolriche. Sung in the evening, as did also Mrs. Montague, some of my songs, and very prettily.

4th. Dined at the Athenæum.

5th. At Lady Donegal's.

6th. Dined with Corry and Philip Crampton (who has been in London some days, at the Union Coffee House. Both good fellows, and Crampton a right clever one. Told me

he never saw my mother looking in better health. Told a remarkable story (which is too long to relate here) about —, who was hanged a year or two ago for the murder of his father-in law, in Ireland, and who, it appears, was innocent, and died to save his mother. Must write this case down some time or other. Parted between eleven and twelve.

7th. Dined with Lord Essex; taken by Sir F. Burdett in his cab, and found him not a very safe driver.

10th. Lord John Russell returned home from Paris; wanted me to go down for a couple of days with him to Brighton; was nearly tempted to do so. Went to Roehampton to Lord Clifden's (taken by Greville) to stay till Thursday. Company: the Ellises, Mackintosh, Greville, and Byng.

11th. Set out to go and see Strawberry Hill, but the rain coming on turned back. Mackintosh, as usual, delightful; his range of knowledge and memory so extensive, passing, (as Greville remarked) from Voltaire's verses to Sylvia up to the most voluminous details of the Council of Trent. Mentioned, as one of the happiest applications of a classic quotation that he knew anywhere, that of Leibnitz in his answer to Bayle's objections against Theism in the *Theodicæe*. Bayle had died before Leibnitz published this work; and in speaking of this event, the latter said that it was but natural to suppose one of the rewards of his candid spirit, in its present state of bliss, would be the happiness of seeing all his former doubts on divine subjects cleared away—

"Candidus *insuetum* miratur limen Olympi
Sub pedibusque videt nubes et sidera."*

The epithet "*insuetum*" M. remarked as particularly happy and arch in its allusion, as well as "*nubes et sidera*," which were applicable to Bayle's doubts, and to the wit with which he illuminated them. (This last addition, I rather think, is my own.) Mentioned Gibbon saying of Priestley, "The miraculous conception, &c., were the last articles he has retrenched from his scanty creed." Talked of the excessive stupidity of the Tories in their misrepresentation of what Plunkett said of their "turning history into an old almanack," as if he meant himself to assert that history

* "*Candidus insuetum miratur limen Olympi,
Sub pedibusque videt nubes et sidera Daphnis,*"
Virgil, Eel. 5.

was no more than an old almanack. There is, however, quite as much of Tory craft as of Tory stupidity in this wilful mistake. Clapham Common, from being a great abode of the Saints, called *Campo Santo*.

12th. Came back to town with Greville. Left some of the printed sheets with Irving to be sent off to America, he having undertaken to make a bargain for me with the publishers there. If I but make a tenth of what he has done lately for himself in that quarter, I shall be satisfied: 3000*l.* he received from Murray for his "Columbus," and 2000*l.* for his "Chronicles of Granada;" and on the same two works he has already got 3000*l.* from the American market, with the property of the copyright there still his own. It is true that for Murray (according to his own account) they have not been so fortunate; his *loss* on the two publications being (as he says) near 3000*l.*, which may not be far from the truth, as the "Chronicles" have not sold at all. Dined at Lord Essex's.

14th. Had Tom home from the Charter House to stay till Monday at Lady Donegal's; stopped at my lodgings on his way. Helped to scrub and brush the little dog, and try to get the dirt of school out of him, and walked with him to Curzon Street. Dined there: company, Jekyll and his son and Irving. Jekyll's stories of Sir Whistler Webster (the father of Lady Holland's husband), his walking with Lady Webster and Sir W. without knowing that she was married, or being acquainted with him; her saying continually, "Sir Whistler says this," and "Sir Whistler says that," and Jekyll, taking it for some cant phrase, saying, "I am really not up to the joke; what does this mean?" then being introduced by her, &c. &c. The servants somewhere announcing him and his wife by a whistle, from one to the other, "Sir (here a whistle) and Lady Webster." Spoke of the talents of General Fitzpatrick; his speech about Lafayette very fine, but delivered in so low a voice as to have made but little impression. Lafayette finding a copy of the "Morning Chronicle" with this speech on his prison table without knowing where it could have come from, as all communication had been long cut off between him and his friends. Gave Irving, to take home and read, the first 200 pages of the "Life."

15th. At work all the morning. Dinner

again at Lady Donegal's, for the pleasure of Master Tom's company, who, bless the dear fellow! was more amusing than any of the *beaux esprits*. On Barbara's telling of her having seen a woman in the streets the other day selling the works of the poets of the day, printed on long ballad sheets at a penny a yard, Tom exclaimed waggishly, looking at me from head to foot, "Only think of a yard and a half of Papa!" Went in the evening to Charles Kemble's, and found a good many people; Lawrence, Sir G. Smart, Durant, &c. &c. Fanny Kemble and her sister sat down and sung my duet, "Farewell, Theresa."

16th. A note from Lady Holland to express her disappointment at not seeing me arrive with Lord John, and entreating me to come down as soon as possible; adding, "though we cannot lodge you, we shall be most happy to feed you." Sat several hours to Lawrence; thence to Longman's. L.'s opinion that it would be wise of Murray to publish the first volume separately. Sir T. Lawrence's story of the "Teniers" offered to the King for 2000 guineas, and his majesty sending for him to see it; his delight with it on the first view, but his altered feeling in looking more closely into it. The King saying, "Why, you have no doubts about it, have you?" and Lawrence answering, "It would be more satisfactory to me if your Majesty would allow Mr. West to see it." L. accordingly showed it to West, whose admiration of it as a genuine Teniers was equal to what his own had been. "May I ask you," says Lawrence, "to look at it a little more closely?" West accordingly went down on his knees before it, and after minutely examining every part, turned round and said, "I see why you bid me do that; it is *not* a Teniers." The King got the picture after this for seven or eight hundred pounds.

17th. Lord Lansdowne arrived in town; had written to me to say he was coming.

18th. Dined at Longman's at Hampstead. Mentioned to Longman that Murray had resolved to publish the first volume immediately, but that the engraving, not being ready, must in that case be reserved for the second. Thought this unlucky, and that the engraving was worth waiting for. Brought home by the Spottiswoodes. Find that Madame Belloc has just arrived post-haste from Paris about the translation of the "Life."

19th. Told Murray, who called upon me, Longman's opinion that he ought to wait for the engraving; determined to do so. Lord John called and sat some time. Dined at Murray's: company, Sir J. Mackintosh (whom I was lucky enough to sit by), Sir T. Lawrence, Irving, Lockhart, the Somervilles, a Mr. Miller, who has written well it seems on law. Mentioned the circumstance of Coke being called Lord Coke, though with no right to it. Lord Bacon, too, a misnomer; ought to be called Lord Verulam. Judge Blackstone a vulgarism.

Pearce's account of Lord Stowell and Capt. Morris; the former saying to the latter (both being of the same age, eighty-five), "What is it keeps you so young, Morris?" "It is all owing (says M.) to my having fallen violently in love at sixteen, and that has kept my heart warm and fresh ever since. I have married in the interim, but never forgot the impression of that first love, though the girl never knew I felt it for her." Lord Stowell pleaded guilty to the same sort of youthful passion, and it turned out, on comparing notes, that it was for the very same girl, who was a celebrated beauty in their young days in the town of Carlisle where they both lived. On coming to inquire what had become of this common object of their admiration (whom Morris supposed to have been long dead), it appeared that she too was still alive, and also in her eighty-fifth year, having changed her name from "Molly Dacre," under which they first knew her, and being now a widow. This discovery inspired old Morris's muse with some very good stanzas, of which the following are the prettiest:—

"Though years have spread around my head
The sober veil of Reason,
To close in night sweet Fancy's light
My heart rejects as treason.
A spark there lies, still fann'd by sighs,
Ordained by beauty's Maker;
And, fixed by Fate, burns yet, though late,
For lovely Molly Dacre.

"Oh, while I miss the days of bliss,
I passed enraptur'd gazing,
The dream impress'd still charms my breast.
Which Fancy's ever raising.
Though much I meet in life is sweet,
My soul can ne'er forsake her;
And all I feel still bears the seal
Of lovely Molly Dacre.

* * * * *

"I've often thought the happy lot
Of health and spirits left me
Is deem'd as due to faith so true,
And thus by Fate is sent me.

While here she be [*or* "lives she"] there's life for me;
But when High Heaven shall take her,
A like last breath I'll ask of death,
To follow Molly Dacre."

Lady Clarke, upon being informed of her two old lovers (for, I believe, the first time), wrote a letter to one or both, very playfully and cleverly expressed.

20th. Set off between ten and eleven to Lawrence's through a dense fog, but in vain; no painting to-day. Found him in the precious room where he keeps his drawings, which are most curious and valuable. Has the original drawings of L. da Vinci for the heads of the "Last Supper," which will be one day beyond price. Rubens' drawings, too, of some of his own pictures for the engraver. Showed me that they had no other way then of designating the differences of colour in engraving but by light and shadows. Now an engraver can so *meander* his shadows as to convey (to a painter's eye at least) the idea of blue and (I believe) one or two other colours. Went to Murray's; means to wait for the engraving. Four sheets given to Madame Beloe to begin her translation, but no settlement of terms with her till we have an answer from Galigiani. Set out for Lord Clifden's with Charles Greville at five. Fog very thick: got off the road once, and were obliged to have boys with links through the lane near Fulham. No one but themselves.

21st. Went to see Strawberry Hill; Greville, Agar E., Lady Georgiana, and myself. The day too cold to enjoy anything. Some pretty and curious things, such as Benvenuto Cellini's bell, Cardinal Wolsey's hat, &c. &c.; but, upon the whole, a mere showbox, and, after the grand engravings of it in Walpole's book, disappointing and *mesquin*. —'s report of what he had heard — say of the King, that he has great moral courage, is always for the boldest measures; in short, fears nothing but *ridicule*: before this he is a rank coward; hence his secluding himself so much, his never having anything but dull men about him, &c. &c. This led them to talk of my squibs against him; whether he had seen them all. A. Ellis said he had been told that "The Tailor's Song," at the end of the "Fudges" had annoyed him very much.* Ellis repeated it to my own amusement, having almost wholly forgot

* At the same time there was a good-humour and good-fellowship in his quoting to Scott Moore's lines,—

it. Between him and Greville I am reminded of all my delinquencies in this way, as they have them all by heart. Irving alone came to dinner, Maclean (his principal) being ill. Byng too came. Sung in the evening. Lord Clifden's hints for my "Irish History;" those who have been dispossessed in 1615 being still young enough to take their vengeance in 1641.

25th. Dined at Lockhart's: company, Irving, Christie, and a brother of Lockhart's. L. mentioned Chantrey's description of a morning in the King's bed-chamber at the Cottage. His tailor, Wyatville, Chantrey, and somebody else in attendance, and the King in bed in a dirty flannel waistcoat and cotton nightcap. A servant announces that the Duke of Wellington is arrived, and waits an audience in the adjoining room. His Majesty gets up, puts on a fine silk *douillette* and velvet cap, and goes to the Duke, and after the conference is ended, returns, puts on the dirty flannel waistcoat and cotton nightcap, and to bed again. Generally walks about in his room all the morning in bare legs. In talking of Sir W. Scott's *quaigh* of whiskey after dinner, which I had fancied was merely taken to show off the Scotch usages to me, Mrs. Lockhart told me it was his daily practice. "Aye," added Lockhart, "and a good pot of porter every night too." Walked home in a snow-storm.

27th. Made all preparations for my start to-morrow. Dined at Lord Essex's: Rogers, Mr. Greville, Lord Lansdowne, &c. &c. In talking of suicide, Lord L. quoted Montesquieu: *Il faut avouer que c'est une grande commodité pour l'héroïsme.*

28th. With Lord L. to breakfast at half-past eight, and started at a quarter-past nine. A very agreeable journey. Took a chaise at Calne, and arrived at Wyatt's before seven. Found it all made most comfortable, the magic wand of my sweet Bess having converted it into a little palace of snugness, and all for 4l. 15s., the half year's rent. In the rooms where, when I last saw them, were washing tubs and fitches of bacon, I now found books, maps, pianoforte, &c. &c.

December. Must dispatch this month rapidly. On the 3rd went to Bowood. Returned home on the 6th. On the 9th received a letter

"The table spread with tea and toast,

Death-warrants, and the 'Morning Post.'"

See "Life of Scott."—Ed.

from the doctor of the Charter House, to say that Tom had shown symptoms of scarlatina, and had been removed to the matron's rooms, and that it was necessary some one should take charge of him on his coming down for the holidays. Bessy determined upon starting herself, and wanted to go the same night, but I would not let her. Walked with her to Buckhill. Met Lady L. in her jaunting car near the lane to Buckhill, and she turned back and took Bessy the rest of the way. Her kindness and evident sympathy with Bessy's apprehensions (though, as usual, making no display of it), highly amiable. Left Bess at Buckhill and walked home.

11th. Very anxious all day; Bessy having gone by one of the late coaches, too late to write, and no letter from the doctor. Walked over to Locke's; asked to dine, and gladly consented.

12th. A letter from my sweet Bess, enclosing me one from the doctor, with the intelligence of Tom's complete convalescence, and that I might expect them down in the evening. Was to have dined at Bowood, but sent an excuse, and between five and six Bessy and Tom arrived.

13th. Allowed Tom to walk out a little alone, and a good deal alarmed by his returning home as pale as death, and but just able to crawl along. I had thought the journey would have accustomed him to the air, but it was too much for him, and he had nearly fainted, and been obliged to lie down upon a bank. The thoughts of his catching cold from the damp, together with the exhaustion of his looks, kept me some time in an agony of apprehension, but in an hour or two he quite revived again. Dined at Bowood; only the two Strangways.

15th. Went to Bowood. Party: Lord Auckland and his sister, the Strangways, an extraordinary fellow, a Russian, who has been in all parts of the world—Japan, Mexico, the Swan River, &c. Slept there and staid over the

16th. The Russian mentioned at dinner an anecdote of a Swiss and a Brabanter talking together, and the latter reproaching the Swiss with fighting for money, while he (the Brabanter) fought for honour. "The fact is," answered the Swiss, drily, "we each of us fight for what each most wants." An old story this.

17th. Strangways walked home with me.

Found a letter from Murray, full of alarm about Byron's verses to Lady Jersey, declaring that they must be cancelled, and entreating me to do what I could to fill up the blank. Too provoking, this. Continually have called his attention to these verses, and, finding that even in their entire state, he made no objection to them, left out, of myself, all the severe parts against the King, and thought no more about them. Must go up to town: cannot otherwise manage it. Wrote to tell him I should come up on Sunday.

19th. A letter from Murray, expressing his regret at the trouble his want of attention is giving me, and enclosing a bill for 100*l.* in lieu of the money from Galignani, which (having broken off all that negotiation) he requested me not to accept.

20th. Off to town. In late, from the slippery state of the roads. Found Murray's servant waiting for me; bedroom ready, with fire, and all sorts of luxuries; but decided for my own den in Bury Street. Expecting me to a late dinner, they had had nothing since luncheon-time, and at ten o'clock we sat down to a hot dinner. Murray's joke, or story rather, of a man recounting his feats in shooting, and appealing to Murray, who had been out with him. "What he hit is history; what he missed is mystery;" a double joke, taking it as "*his* story," and "*my* story." Home to Bury Street, tired.

21st. Hunted out, among my papers, a poem of Byron's (which I had rejected) to supply the blank left by the cancel. Thence to Murray's and the printer's. Left the verses at Printing House Square, on my way to the Longmans'. Dined at Byng's, having had a letter from him before I came up, to say that he would secure Luttrell and Greville on the chance of my meeting them. Company, besides these two, Vesey Fitzgerald and Irving. Luttrell's delight at Hood's puns, particularly one where he makes a soldier say, "I thought, like Lavater, I could *write* about *face*." Though Hood is admirable in his line, yet what a line it is for men like Luttrell to admire! Was ever Pope, Prior, Addison, *any one*, in fact, of real wit a pun-hunter? It was among Swift's drivellings, to be sure; but all the lucid intervals of his humour were free from it.*

* Luttrell's jokes were chiefly puns. For instance, when Mr. Croker had charged the public with war salary on ac-

22d. Dined with the Hollands: only themselves. Lord II. delightful; his saying, after dinner, about the *ordinaire* claret. "If we finish this, we shall be able to get some better." Told of Mr. Fox saying one night in the House, that his person had been frequently caricatured, but that he defied any one (and in saying this he placed his hands on his fat sides) to paint him in the character of Envy. Spoke of Fox's famous answer to Lawrence's parallel of Hanno and Hannibal; his application of the words, *Ego Hannibal peto pacem*. In speaking of Burke he said, "You all overrate Burke; you, too, Master Moore, among the number; particularly in saying that he ever could have been trusted as leader of a great party." This I, of course, denied having said; the fact being, as well as I can recollect, that I have maintained the direct contrary. In the evening Rogers came, Luttrell, Lord Ashburnham, Byng, &c., but not Lord John (whom, by the bye, I had sat some time with in the morning), though I chiefly waited for him and for the Americans. Lord Ashburnham quoted an epitaph he had met with in a churchyard, and which, he said, "contained poetry, piety, and politeness." The following are the lines:

"You who stand around my grave,
And say, 'His life is gone;'
You are mistaken—*pardon me*—
My life is but begun."

23rd. Asked to various places to dine, but reserved myself for the chance of seeing Fanny Kemble in *Belvidera*. Fanny K.'s acting clever, but not touching, at least, to me. Was unmoved enough, during the pathetic parts, to look around the house, and saw but few (indeed, *no*) symptoms of weeping. One lady was using a handkerchief most plentifully; but I found it was for a cold in the head. Sir Thomas Lawrence in the orchestra, full of anxiety and delight; and I made it a point whenever he looked our way, that he should see me clapping enthusiastically. Came over to speak to us afterwards. Got home between ten and eleven, with all the horrors of correcting the cancel and of packing before me. Dispatched all, and set off in a hackney coach for the Gloucester Coffeehouse, where I slept.

count of Algiers, and thereby excited much indignation, it happened that some one at dinner talked of the name of Croker Mountains given to land supposed to be seen in one of the voyages to the North Pole. "Does any thing grow on them?" said some one. "Nothing, I believe, but a little wild celery" (salary), said Luttrell.—Ed.

24th. Started for home; a deuce of a journey. On Marlborough Downs was within an inch of being upset, having got off the road, which was untraceable from the drifting of the snow. Got out with all speed, the leaders of the six horses that drew us being already down in a hollow, and the heavily-loaded coach within an inch of following. When the coach was righted, took in two poor girls (milliners, apparently, from their smart dress), who had been all along outside. The rest of our way to Calne very slow and perilous, the coachman being obliged to get down continually, to see if we were still keeping the road.

25th to 31st. The printing off of the first volume delayed by a mistake at my lodgings relative to the transmission of the revised cancel to the printer.

1830.

JANUARY, 1830, 1st to 3rd. Busy at my second volume.

4th. Went to Bowood: party, the Barringtons, Henry and Mary Fox, the Hallams, father and son; Spring Rice and son. Staid till the 7th. Henry Fox's story of the wonderful calculating boy in Italy (only seven or eight years old). Two young men one day being inclined to quiz the child, asked him several frivolous questions, and among others, "*Due e due, quanto fanno?*" The boy answered, "*Quattro cento.*" "The devil," they exclaimed; "how is that?" On which he replied, calmly, "*Due e due fanno quattro, e poi* (pointing to them) *due zeri.*" This is hardly credible. Talking of the small potentates of the Continent; the Prince de Reuss (?) one of the first to acknowledge the French Republic; the terms of his recognition as follows:—" *Le P. de Reuss reconnaît la République Française;*" to which Talleyrand returned for answer, "*La République Française est bien aise de faire connaissance avec le Prince de Reuss.*" The present Prince of Monaco is *Hercules* the 50th. Dean Ogle a very absent man; has been known more than once at a strange table, where there happened not to be a very good dinner, to burst out with, "Dear me, what a very bad dinner! I am so sorry not to have given you a better," &c. &c., thinking himself at home.

Story of a sick man telling his symptoms (which appeared to himself, of course, dreadful) to a medical friend, who, at each new item of the disorder, exclaimed, "Charming!" "Delightful!" "Pray go on!" and, when he had finished, said with the utmost pleasure, "Do you know, my dear sir, you have got a complaint which has been for some time supposed to be extinct?"

8th to 15th. Busy, and wondering at the further delay of the first volume. At length an article in the "Times," and another in the "Courier," both favourable, announced its publication at hand.

16th. Received a copy of the book.

19th to 27th. At work. Loads of letters every day about my book, and most flaming eulogies of it in the "Sun," "Atlas," "Court Journal," "Northern Whig," &c. &c.

31st. Walked home from Lacock. Found my own darling Bess a little better; the state of her health gives me many a sad moment. Great God! spare her to me. An article in the "Times" of yesterday, very flattering to me, but hard upon poor Byron.

February 1st. A chaise in the morning to take me to Bowood. Started with Lord L. at a quarter past nine. Dined at Maidenhead, and got to town about eight. Found myself very comfortably lodged at Fielding's in Sackville Street.

2nd. Working at home. Murray called. Very good accounts of the "Life." Talked of the late Radical article in the "Quarterly," and the sensation it has made. When Croker, among others, was expostulating with Murray about it, the latter reminded him that he (Croker) had sent for him a short time ago, and said, "You may be sure, Murray, Reform must be given some time or other, and the sooner you take up that tone the better for the 'Review.'" Croker said he only meant as far as related to East Retford, &c. &c. Talked of the letter Davison, the printer, had from Bland, Lady Byron's solicitor, in which he says that Lady Byron was highly pleased with the "Life." Murray assured me that Bland is not the man to have said this, unless he had good grounds for it. Dined by myself at Brookes's and home pretty early.

3rd. Notes from Lady Holland and Rogers, to ask me to dinner to-day. At home all the morning, working. Irving called, and sat some

time. Company at Lord King's: Sir J. Graham, Wilson, Sharpe, Warburton, Dr. Rees, and Macaulay. Tierney, to the last, very nervous about speaking; Pitt, too, and I think they said Erskine. Brougham said of Wetherell that he "drives his substances and four." Lord King showed me a journal kept by the Chancellor King, in short-hand, which Dr. Rees had lately deciphered for him.

4th. Went at one to call upon poor Mary Godfrey, who was quite overwhelmed upon first seeing me, but more composed afterwards. The meeting altogether a sad one, and both Barbara and she seemed to recover their spirits at least far more than I did.

6th. To printer's, &c. Dined at the Athenæum; a grand dinner, for the opening of the Club, consisting of all those members that had belonged to Committees. Croker in the chair, supported by Lords Lansdowne, Gower, Lowther, and Bexley, Bishop of London, Agar Ellis, &c. &c., to the amount of about thirty. Sat next Chantry.

7th. Worked all day; and, intending to return in the evening, ordered a dinner at Brookes's, but had scarcely done so, when Stephenson (who had been commissioned by the Duke of Sussex to throw his drag-net at Brookes's for any stray guests he could catch for an impromptu dinner at Kensington) tempted me to join the party, and I disordered my cutlet. Set off, six in a coach (one of the Duke of Sussex's which he had sent in for the haul), consisting of Lords Durham, Howick, &c., and found myself most heartily and hospitably welcomed by his R. H. Lord and Lady Cleveland and daughter, Lady Cecilia Buggins, &c. of the party. The day most royally odd, and (to do it justice) *unroyally* easy and amusing. Brought back by Lord Durham.

8th. Worked at my sheets six hours and a-half. Dined at Athenæum alone, and worked for two or three hours afterwards.

9th. A note from Lady Holland, to say she would wish to put me off from dinner till Friday or Saturday, as to-morrow she means to go to the play. Glad of the opportunity to accept Kenny's invitation instead.

10th. Dined at Kenny's, taken by Rogers. Company: Jekyll and son, Irving, Newton, Mrs. Badham (Fanny Holcroft that was) and her husband. In talking of the Duke of —,

Jekyll mentioned that for years, whenever he met him, his R. H. used to ask regularly, "I hope your two daughters are well?" (Jekyll's being two sons): to which Jekyll would answer, "Quite well, thank your R. H.; they are both at Westminster:" and the Prince's reply was always "They couldn't be better placed." An excellent specimen of the sort of attention royal questioners pay to their answerers.

[At this time a proposal was made to Mr. Moore, apparently with Lady Canning's full approbation, to write the life of Mr. Canning. There was much that was tempting in this proposal; the brilliant oratory and delightful wit of Canning would have found a congenial biographer in Moore. On the other hand, the career of the friend and disciple of Pitt, Anti-Jacobin and Anti-Reformer, must have jarred with the liberal and reforming politics of the author of the *Irish Melodies* and the "Two-penny Post-bag." Here is the result.]

11th. The first aspect of the plan appeared to me most inviting; the importance of the period, the abundance of materials I should have to illustrate it, and my general coincidence with the principles of Canning's latter line of politics; not to mention (what unluckily is always last in my calculations) the great pecuniary advantage I should reap from having (as was agreed I should) the whole of the profits resulting from it; all this was, I own, most tempting. But, upon coming to consider the matter more closely, an obstacle presented itself in the person of Lord Grey, which at once put an end to the whole speculation. The decided hostility in which he and Canning were placed during the period in question, would make it wholly impossible for me to enter into the subject, without such a degree of freedom in speaking of the conduct of Lord Grey as both my high opinion of him, and my gratitude to him for much kindness, would render impossible. If left to myself I might perhaps manage to do justice to all parties, without offending any; but under the dictation of Lady Canning, the thing would be impracticable. Told — accordingly (who felt my reasons to be unanswerable) that I must decline the undertaking.

12th. Dined at Longman's; McCulloch and Dr. Lardner. McCulloch mentioned Dobbs on the "Trade of Ireland" as good; spoke of a

pamphlet published by Dilby in 1786, in which the fallacy of the Sinking Fund was exposed. Talked of Sir W. Petty; a clever book "on the Bills of Mortality, by Captain —," said by Burnet to be really written by Petty. This is however improbable; why should he, who avowed everything else he wrote he so chary about *one* book, and that a good one? Talked of Evelyn's account of Sir W. Petty; his mimicry, dancing, &c. &c. Spoke of the republication of Berkeley's "Querist," with notes; a good idea, and well executed, though in some instances deficient in information; found, from McCulloch, it is by Vernon Smith. Lord Lansdowne had already told me he knew whose it was, but had been enjoined secrecy.

13th. After working a little, off to the Charter House. Tom better. Dined at the Athenæum, and home in the evening to work.

14th. Dined at Chantrey's. Had been asked to the Lord Chancellor's, and promised Lady Lyndhurst, if possible, to come in the evening. Company at Chantrey's: Bedford, Babbage (the great mathematician), Penn, Stokes, and one or two others. Babbage, in praising my "Byron," said that my analysis of the character of Lord B. came nearer to the clearness of science than anything he had ever read. * * *

15th. To Tom at Charter House. Dined at Sir E. Codrington's. Company: Lord Essex, and Sir H. Bunbury. The Codrington girls sung in the evening very nicely, their brother, the Captain, joining them. Brought home by Sir H. Bunbury.

20th. Took Miss Macdonald to see over new Athenæum; met Mr. Grenville, who took advantage of the escort to see it also. Dined at Byng's; Agar Ellis, Greville, Irving, Littleton. Received from Dr. Lardner some of the sheets (about half a volume) of Mackintosh's "History of England;" read them with much avidity, and was, on the whole, not disappointed, which, taking into account the expectation with which one must always approach any thing of Mackintosh's, is saying a great deal.

21st. At home, as usual, at work most of the day. Dined at the Lord Chancellor's. Company: the Granvilles, the Hollands, Lord Lansdowne (Lady L. too ill to come), Lords Auckland and Carlisle, and C. Greville. Lord Holland's remarks on Thurlow and Mansfield

presiding in their respective courts, both handsome men, both able judges; but while law was all gentleness and suavity, equity was all violence and savageness. Told of Allen standing some time before Vandyke's portrait of Laud, which is in Lord Holland's possession, and at last being heard to mutter, with a sort of growl of pleasure, to himself, "But he was beheaded." An assembly in the evening of the most chosen. Had some talk with Lady Glengall about my "Byron;" said she had sat up till seven in the morning to finish it. The Duke of Wellington of the party, and he and I exchanged greetings for the first time since I knew and dined with him, as Sir A. Wellesley, in Dublin. Nothing more, however, than his blunt "How d'ye do," in passing.

22nd. Called and saw Lady Lansdowne, who is confined with cold; offered kindly to take Tom down to Wiltshire where she is going. Went to Tom; found him pretty well, but looking so delicate as to make me very uneasy. Indeed, what with one or other of those in whom my heart is wrapped up, I am doomed perpetually to anxiety. My poor mother, too, is in a state of sad weakness; and I am in constant apprehension about her. Dined at Colonel Bailey's. Company: Lords Cleveland, Saye and Sele, Reay, and Duncan. Brought home by Lord Cleveland.

26th. Dined at Lord Lansdowne's. Company: Lord Auckland, C. Greville, Doherty, C. Kemble, &c. Kemble's story of the Irishman mulcted in 5*l.* for beating a fellow, and saying, "What, five pounds! Well (turning to the patient), wait till I get you in Limerick, where *bating* is *cheap*, and I'll take it out of you."

27th. To Tom again; took him out in a hackney coach to St. John's Wood road, and having there walked him about in the sun for half an hour, returned with him *en fiacre* to the Charter House. Dined at Hallam's: Rogers, Lady C. Lindsay, Lady Davy, &c. &c. To the Opera for a short time.

March 1st. Dined with Murray. Meant to have joined the Lansdownes at the play afterwards, to see Fanny Kemble, but had a note from Murray before dinner (a messenger from the Lansdowne's to leave the number of their box for me at his house, having apprised him of my design) to say, "For God's sake do not

go to Lord Lansdowne's this evening; you live with him, and it can be of no consequence to him, but to me it will be thrusting a knife into my feelings," &c. &c. Company at Murray's: James Smith, the Lockharts, Irving, &c. &c. Staid there the whole evening, and sung,—the first time for near two months,—and was actually pleased with the sound of my own voice. A niece of Madame D'Arblay's also sung some things with an Italian, and very prettily.

3rd. Off at seven, Tom and I, for home, and most glad to get there. Found Bessy pretty well.

4th to 17th. Hard at work (as hard as it is my nature to be), and but two days of company; one at the Fieldings' on the 5th, when I dined there and slept, and the other at Starkey's on the 11th.

18th. Started for town with Tom. Kept him to sleep with me that night.

19th. Up at a little after seven, not having slept much; and having breakfasted at Power's on our way, deposited my young *Moretto* at the Charter House. Dined at Edmund Byng's: a theatrical party; Jack Bannister, Matthews, Liston, Yates, Bartley, &c. &c.; the Knight of Kerry and myself being the only non-dramatic part of the assembly. Bannister's imitation of Garrick in private life: a sort of hesitating finery in the manner of speaking, hardly like what one could have expected, and which Bannister said that Garrick, who was fond of the great, took up in imitation of Lord Mansfield. Matthews's imitations admirable. William Linley singing "Stay, traveller," and his brother Ozias in agonies under it. "What dreadful stuff is that?" asks the brother. "Ozias," answers William, with a solemn and reproving voice, "It is our father's."

20th. Had called at the Hollands' yesterday, and they asked me to dine to-day. Went. Nobody but themselves and Lord Robert Spencer. Forgot to mention that a few days before I left home I received from Lord Holland Lady Byron's printed remarks upon my book, transmitted to me by her own desire. Told him, in answer, that I would, with her permission, subjoin it to the second edition of my work, and received from him a most flattering reply, praising the good humour and judiciousness of this step; also entering into

some particulars respecting the part of my book relative to Lord Carlisle's father, and suggesting some little softening explanations, which, he thought, if given in a second edition, would gratify Lord C.

24th. Murray very worrying about omissions; has taken fright at the whole Guiccioli affair.

25th. Note from Lord Essex to say that the Directors of Ancient Music last night expressed great regret at my not coming, and that there was some talk among them of making me henceforth free of the Ancient Music. Dined with Mrs. Manners Sutton for the purpose of accompanying her to Mrs. Shelley's in the evening, they having made up an acquaintance together since I was last in town. At dinner only Mr. and Mrs. Hare.

26th. Dined with the Fieldings, and went in the evening to a party at Dr. Bowring's. Introduced to several first-rate literati, whose names I knew nothing about; also to Pickersgill and Martin, the artists. To my surprise and pleasure saw Washington Irving among the group, who proposed that I should accompany him back to a party of Americans he had just left (at Mr. Maclean's) which I accordingly did to his great delectation. Found the party numerous. A young American lady played the harp and I sang, while Mrs. Maclean sat by my side, exclaiming enthusiastically, "Oh elegant! elegant!" Notwithstanding this Irish Americanism, however, a very nice woman.

28th. Glad to accept Lord Essex's offer of an airing in his barouche. Took me out to Holland House. Lady H., on asking him to dinner some day, said, "As to the little poet, there is no use in asking him." "Try me," I said. "Well, Thursday next," she replied; and most luckily I happened to be disengaged for that day. Went from thence to see Wilkie's pictures. Dined at Lord Lansdowne's, and went with him at night to Lord Essex's, where we found Miss Stephens, the Codringtons, &c. Sung with great success. Had received a note from Twiss in the morning, saying, "Is there by any possibility a chance of finding you disengaged to day? If so, pray come, and meet the Duke of Wellington here at seven o'clock."

29th. Dined with Dr. Holland. In the evening went to Martin's (the artist), and met a large party of small literati. Flattered and

talked at by them till I was sick and ran away.

30th. Dined at Lord Charlemont's. Company: the Caulfields, Lady Davy, and Lord Dudley. Lord Dudley's dialogue with himself, and silence to the rest of the company during dinner, very awful and damping.

31st. Dined at Lord Carnarvon's. Company: Lords Mahon, Auckland, Cowper, Porchester, Mr. Algernon Herbert, &c. &c. Off early to the Ancient Music, Lord Cawdor having given me a ticket. Came in for the second act. After it was over, the Archbishop of York most graciously told me that the Directors were all very sorry at my disappointment last week, and that he was sure that he spoke but their united wish in saying that I might consider myself free to come to their box whenever I pleased.

April 1st. Dined at Holland House. Company: Lords Carlisle, Euston, Melbourne, and John Russell, Lady Hardy, and daughters. Lord Holland having told me of a letter which Lady Byron had sent that morning, upon the subject of Campbell's rhapsody, to Lord Melbourne, asked Lord M. after dinner whether he had any objection to show it me. "On the contrary," he said, and went up stairs to his room for it. In this note to Lord M. she expresses great regret at the "injudiciousness" of what Campbell has done, though convinced that it was very good-naturedly meant, and adding that she has known him a long time, &c. &c.

3rd. Went in the evening to Lady F. Gower's theatricals. The second piece a kind of *tableau* founded on the ballad of "Zarifa:" most beautiful. Lady F. Gower's looks, dress, and singing as pretty as need be, and the whole thing admirable of its kind. The company very chosen; hundreds of the usual party people being left out.

4th. Breakfasted with Rogers, to meet Luttrell and Sandford. R. quoted the following good epigram:—

" 'See the Justice of Heaven,' America cries,
 'George loses his senses, North loses his eyes!'
 For before they attacked her, 'twas easy to find
 That the monarch was mad and the minister blind."

Mentioned also the following upon Mrs. Cowley's tragedy of "The Fate of Sparta" (or some such name):—

"When in your mimic scenes I viewed
 Of Sparta's sons the fate severe:

I caught the Spartan fortitude,
 And saw their woes without a tear."

S. quoted Charteris' saying, "I'd give at any time ten thousand pounds for a character, because I know I could make twenty by it." Called on the Godfreys, and at Shee's. Dined at A. Baring's. Company: the Fazakerleys, Rogers, Mrs. Norton, who was at war all dinner time, most amusingly, with Rogers. Sung in the evening; and so did Mrs. Norton, some songs full of feeling.

5th. Forgot to mention that Henry de Ros has given me some papers of his family, consisting of letters from the Duke of Marlborough, Lord Coningsby, &c. &c., to do with as I liked. Called to-day upon Agar Ellis, who has got some of them to look over, and was glad to find that he thinks they may be turned to account. Dined with Sir Henry Bunbury. A fine old lady there, his aunt, Mrs. Gwynne, who was one of the two pretty girls relative to whom the story of Goldsmith's petty jealousy is told; all, she assured me, a misrepresentation. Goldsmith merely said, playfully, to their mother, on some one having come to speak to him, "You see I have my admirers too." Such is the truth of history and biography. Talked a good deal with her (into her trumpet) about Sir Joshua Burke, &c.

6th. Sent some things to the printer. Walked out with Corry, who staid with me till he saw me off in the coach for Cashibury, where I was glad to fly to for a few days' quiet. The evening delicious when I arrived, and the place looking beautiful. No one but Lord Essex himself and Ratcliffe.

7th to 9th. Had my mornings to myself till between two and three, and then drove out for an hour or so with Lord Essex. Got pretty well on with my work, and enjoyed my solitary walks in the park and about the Swiss Cottage exceedingly. At the last day's dinner we had the addition of Codrington, Woolriche, and Sabine.

10th. Started for town in a chaise with Ratcliffe. Employed myself all day in preparing for to-morrow's flight to Wiltshire. Dined at the Speaker's: an odd assemblage; the Mathewses, Mrs. Shelley, young Kitchener (son of the Doctor) and his wife, &c. &c., besides Corry (who went with me) and Washington Irving. Forgot to mention in its place Irving's description of the evening at Horace Twiss's

(the evening of the day he wanted me to meet the Duke of Wellington). But few people had come; and "there was Twiss," said Irving, with his two great men, the Duke and the Chancellor, just like a spider that has got two big flies, and does not know what to do with them." Sung a little, and walked home with Irving and Corry. The Speaker very agreeable after dinner.

11th. At breakfast with Sir Henry Bunsbury in Grosvenor Street at half past seven, and started with him for Bromham (he going to Napier's) at eight. A very agreeable journey, but, on my arrival, found my darling Bessy looking sadly ill. Has not been at all well ever since I went.

12th to 23rd. At home, quiet and at work. Bessy a little better, but by no means in a comfortable state of health, and giving me many an uneasy thought. God preserve her to me, I pray day and night.

24th. Up to town.

26th. Hard at work, copying out and correcting what I had written while at Sloperton. Met O'Connell, just returned from Ireland. Found he had very good-naturedly called to see my mother. Could speak of nothing but her likeness to me and the powers of her mind. "Yes," I said, "a very active mind." "Aye, but," he answered, "such quantities of it."

28th. Dined with Lord Essex, and went to the Directors' box at the Ancient Music; the first time of my using the privilege that the Directors had given me.

29th. Went, for a little quiet, to Richmond, to the Castle. Arrived at nine in the evening.

30th. Passed the whole morning at Lord Lansdowne's villa, working. The day delicious.

May 1st to 4th. All this month I was so occupied with work in the mornings and society in the evenings that I found it impossible to snatch a moment for my journal, and a few memorandums is all I have preserved of this period. 1st. Passed the morning at the villa, as I had done the day before; lunched at the Castle, and returned to town in the evening. 2nd. Breakfasted with Rogers. Went out to Holland House. The levée there of a Sunday always delightful. My Lord on his stock-still pony, taking exercise, as he thinks: and my Lady in her whiskey, surrounded by *savans*. There were to-day Sydney Smith, Brougham,

Jeffrey, &c. Sydney Smith praised my "Byron," the first book of mine (or indeed any one else's) I ever heard him give a good word to; seemed to do it, too, with sincerity. Went to the Duchess Cannizzaro in the evening. Lord Dudley, upon being asked whether he had read some new novel of Scott's, said, "Why, I am ashamed to say I have not; but I have hopes it will soon *blow over*." It is, I believe, in Murphy's "Apprentice," that the fellow who is to act Ghost asks "Whether he is to bow to the audience?" and the other answers, "Why yes, if you are the ghost of a gentleman, certainly."

6th. Saw Tom off at seven in the coach for Wiltshire: could hardly hold my head up all the day after. Breakfasted with Jeffrey to meet Sydney Smith, W. Irving, &c. Smith very amusing. In talking of Sir T. Lawrence's death, he said he had heard that it was entirely owing to his bandage (after bleeding) coming off, and the ignorance of his servant in not binding it on again, that he lost his life. On my remarking the additional ill-luck, after such a death, off falling into the hands of such a biographer as Campbell, he started up, and exclaimed theatrically, "Look to your bandages, all ye that have been blooded; there are biographers abroad!" Nothing could be kinder or more affectionate than Jeffrey's manner and expressions in taking leave of me; and when he shook my hand and said, "God bless you," his voice evidently faltered.

11th. Set off for Cashibury, where I remained till the 14th, enjoying myself with the sweet quiet of the place, and the leisure which my long mornings afforded me. Our only company, Woolriche, Baring Wall, and (one of the days) Codrington.

25th. Dined with Lord Lansdowne; Lady Jersey's in the evening. 27th. With Lord Lansdowne again to meet a large party, Lord Grey, Brougham, the Carlises, the Hollands, &c. &c. The dinner afterwards made some noise in the newspapers, being represented foolishly as a reconciliation dinner to Lord Grey.

28th. (My birthday). Started for Sloperton, Bessy being anxious to have me, at least, to a birthday *supper*. The state of politics had, before I left town, become rather interesting; Lord Grey having returned to his former station beside (or rather at the head of) his old

fellow Whigs, and some demonstrations of a spirited opposition having been exhibited. Though the dinner of the 27th at Lansdowne House was not quite of so *prononcé* a character as the papers would have it, there is no doubt it made a part of the mutual movement towards a renewal of old friendship that has taken place between the parties. It was, I dare say, for the purpose of giving a less political air to the dinner that Lord L. was so anxious that I should be of it, as, after having invited me for the 25th, he wrote to say, that he wished, "without detriment" to that day, that I would dine with him also on the 27th; but that if I could only give *one* day, he begged it might be the latter. Lady E. Fielding, who talked to me about it afterwards, took the same view of its being a reconciliation dinner, and said it was remarked that, notwithstanding this being the object, Lord L. had never paid any attention whatever to Lord Grey, but had, after dinner, *talked only to me!* Such are the exaggerations that get about. How can it be expected that people at a distance should know anything of the mysteries of the great world, when they who live in the very thick of it are so constantly (as I see every day) at fault?

June 1st, 2nd. Returned on the latter day to town, Napier going up with me. He and I have been appointed members of the Committee of thirteen, chosen by the Athenæum Club to elect 100 out of a 1000 persons at present candidates for admission; an honourable but troublesome trust. Found on my table, upon coming up, forty letters, thirty of which were from canvassers for the Club. The claim of one of these to admission, was his having written about the Siamese Twins. The members of our Committee are so chosen as to represent different classes; for instance, the representative of the peerage is Lord Farnborough; of the commons, Croker; of the clergy, the Bishop of Llandaff; of the law, Mr. Justice Parke; of the army and navy, Napier; of the arts, Chantrey; of the sciences, Davies Gilbert, and Professor Sedgwick; of general literature, Thomas Moore; and so on. * * *

5th. Dined with Sir G. Robinson. Company: Lord and Lady Tavistock, Lord John Russell, Lord Clifden, and Agar Ellis. Had been asked to Baring Wall's to meet the Lansdownes; also to Bulwer's, where I went

in the evening, and was made to sing by the handsome hostess.

6th. Dined at Holland House. Company: the Granvilles, Ellises, Lord Seaforth, &c. Forget whether I have mentioned that Henry de Ros had placed at my disposal a large collection of papers which have come to him from his father: some of the Duke of Marlborough's, Lord Coningsby's, &c. &c. Among the mass are some very interesting letters, &c., connected with the last moments of Lord Edward Fitzgerald, which Agar Ellis thinks I might make some good thing of. Told Lord Holland of this. Highly approved of it; said he would give some help in the work, Pigott's Petition*, &c. Took me to his rooms when we retired for the night, and read to me from the "Account of his Own Times," which I have before mentioned, a long character of Lord Edward, as well as remarks on the Rebellion in which he engaged; all very clever and very bold. Said he at present saw no objection in letting me have this for my work. Read me also a character of Lord Shelburne, apparently very fair, though some parts very severe. In the character of Lord Edward, he cites, as applied to him, my song, "Oh, breathe not his name!" which is, however, a mistake, as that song alludes to Emmet and the passage in his speech on receiving sentence, "Let no man write my epitaph." Lord H. discusses, in this character, the question of calling in foreign assistance, and puts very manfully the circumstances by which such a step may be justified. Did not leave him till near two o'clock. Slept there.

10th. Was to have dined to-day with Rogers early, but our Committee (electoral) meeting at five, it was out of the question. Told the Fieldings I would come to them. Our business to-day merely preliminary, and smoothing the way to our regular meeting on Saturday. In alarm (both Ellis and I) for Barnes, whom it was our great object to get in, and whom we understood it was the intention of the Bishop to protest against in consequence of the late attack on the Bishop of London in the "Times." On its being proposed (as one of the steps facilitatory of our future operations) that each should mention the person or persons we were more particularly

* This was the petition to the House of Lords, written by Sir Arthur Pigott. The calm argumentative eloquence of this paper is very striking.—Ed.

anxious about, Ellis, who was the first called upon, began rather imprudently, by saying that there was one person he felt most especially anxious for, so much so, indeed, that if that person should be objected to, he rather feared he should be compelled to exercise his *veto* against those proposed by others; this was, he added, Mr. Barnes. He then named his father (Lord Clifden) and two or three others. When it came to my turn, I mentioned Barnes and only him.* Company at Fieldings in the evening. Pressed to sing, and refused stoutly for some time, till Lady Glengall got between me and the door as I was going away to Lady Graham's, and took me by main force to the pianoforte. I could hardly at first get a note out for anger. After a song or two set off to Lady Graham's: a marriage party, the nuptials of Miss Sheridan with Lord Seymour being celebrated there this evening.

11th. Dined at Lord Jersey's. Company: Lord and Lady Gower, Lord and Lady Rosebery, Coke and Lady Anne, Lord Lansdowne, Sydney Smith, &c.

12th. Meeting of Committee; got through our business. Had resolved to stand by Ellis in his general *veto*, in case the Bishop opposed Barnes; but all was right and unanimous. I could not, indeed, have anticipated that thirteen men should have got on together at once so conscientiously and smoothly; and our list tells well, I think, for the conscientious part of the business. Left them nearly finished at a quarter before seven. Dined with Mr. Grenville. Company: the Gowers, the Lansdownes, the Cawdors, the Braybrookes, &c. Murray (Bessy's brother-in-law) arrived in town with his boy Charles, on their way, as I hear, to Switzerland, for the purpose of putting Charles to school.

16th, 17th. Uncertain about Bessy's time of coming up.

18th. Bessy has decided for Saturday. Dined at Wilbraham's: company, Lord Ebrington, Lady Clinton (I think) &c. &c. In the evening to Stafford House (taken in his cab by Lord E.), which was opened for the second time in compliment to Prince Frederick of Prussia. Nothing can be more magnificent than the staircase; its size and grandeur made

the whole company look both pigmy and dingy. Seemed to remind everybody of the Caserta at Naples. Lady Stafford (who received the company in a manner worthy the staircase) particularly civil to me.

19th. Having a long engagement to dine with the Clanricardes, dressed pretty early, in order to meet Bessy on her arrival before I went to dinner, and despatched off a messenger to the Charter House for Tom. As she did not come in the first coach, left Power at the Gloucester to wait for her; and was proceeding towards my dinner, when the messenger from the Charter House overtook me with a note from Dr. Russell, saying Tom was ill, and he did not like to let him out. All this threw me into such a fidget, what with my anxiety about Tom and my fear lest Bessy, on her arrival, should go on to the Charter House, and find him perhaps even more ill than Russell had described him, that I resolved to send an apology to the Clanricardes, and did so at twenty minutes before eight. Returned then to my post in Piccadilly, where I waited till half-past nine (having gobbled up a hasty and dirty morsel of dinner at the Gloucester Coffee House), but no Bessy arrived. Took for granted she could not get a place.

20th. A note at seven in the morning from Bessy, who had travelled all night, and was now at Benetts' expecting me to breakfast. Found that Murray and Rees had met her in Piccadilly by chance on her arrival. Little Charles with us to breakfast. All went, Russell too, down to the Charter House to see Tom: found that he was now quite well again. Brought him away with us, and all dined together at Power's.

21st, 22nd. Devoted my time chiefly to Bessy, doing but little at my work.

23rd. Wednesdays being half-holidays at the Charter House, went for Tom, and passed the whole day sauntering about the city, seeing sights, &c. At five o'clock (the Longmans having kindly offered to have dinner for us) went to Paternoster Row, where we dined, our plan being a little disturbed by the politeness (very kindly intended) of Mrs. Longman and her daughters coming into town to meet us; all in fine evening dresses, and Bessy in her country cottage bonnet. However, all went on well and agreeably. Came away early, Bessy having to pack for the morning.

* "I have made a mistake. All this took place on the 8th, as we had three meetings."

24th. Up at six, and off to Albemarle Street for the travellers. Went in the coach with them as far as Kensington; and having put some proofs in my pocket, walked for an hour and a half in Kensington Gardens, correcting them. Then went to the inn (kept by Lord Holland's old butler), and breakfasted.

26th. Tempted out from my work by the fine day and the death of his Majesty, both of which events have set the whole town in motion. Never was London so excited or so lively. Crowds every where, particularly in St. James's Street, from the proclamation of the new King being expected before the Palace. The whole thing reminded me of a passage in an old comedy: "What makes him so merry?" "Don't you see he's in mourning?" Went with Lord Essex down to the House of Lords; left him to go take his bath, and called at the Speaker's, where I had been asked to dine, but could not. Found that he had no intention of putting off the dinner. Met Miss Eden, who wanted to press me into the service of a party on the Thames with the Francis Levesons, &c. &c., Lord Francis having put off a dinner he was to have had, and exchanged it for a water party. Should have liked it, but was engaged. Dined at the Lansdownes: company, Duke of Grafton, the Jerseys, the Morleys, the Vernons, the Lord Chancellor, &c. Sat next the Lord Chancellor, and was much amused by his manner. Was laughing at the state of nervousness Scarlett had got into on the subject of the press. Vernon told me that the first account he had of the King's death in the morning was from Botham (at Salt Hill, where Vernon and Lady Elizabeth slept), Botham saying to him, when he came down stairs, "Well, sir, I have lost my *neighbour*."

27th. Dined with Lord Carnarvon: company, Rogers, young Norton, Lord King, &c. &c. Went in the evening to Lady Grey's. Lord Grey told me that having to attend a meeting of the Governors of the Charter House the other day, he inquired about my little Tom, and was told that he was the quickest, liveliest, and most agreeable little fellow in the world, full of fun and stories; but that he could not be got to work. This but too well agrees with what his master told me.

28th. 29th. Forget what became of me.

30th. Was to have dined with Lord Dudley, but received a put-off last night, in consequence

of the debate in the Lords. Had been asked to divers other places: Holland House, Lord Worcester's, &c. Wrote to Lord Worcester to offer myself, and received for answer that he was "enchanted" to have me. Company, Duke of Grafton, Lord and Lady Anson, Lord and Lady Fitzroy Somerset, Matuscevic, &c.

July 1st to 7th. Working all the mornings, and dinnering it in the evenings, but took little note of my movements. Dined on the 5th with Agar Ellis: company, Dukes of Grafton and Norfolk, the Lansdownes, Carlises, &c. &c. 6th (I thing it was). Dined with Mrs. Manners Sutton, and went under the gallery of the House of Commons afterwards. Was lucky enough to come in for Brougham's speech on the Regency: one of the most powerful and spirited sallies of oratory I ever heard. The effect of his humour upon the House! Mrs. Speaker had allowed me but an hour to stay; and very near the end of Brougham's speech one of the officers, in a fine gown, came and whispered me, *officially* as it were, "Sir, your hour's out." Found an evening assembly on my return; quadriles, &c. Sung a few songs, and home between one and two. Could not help next day writing Brougham a note to say how entirely his speech had captivated and astonished me. 7th. Dined at Lord Grey's: company, the Hollands, Lansdownes, Carlises, Duke of Bedford &c.

8th. Dined at Sir F. Burdett's: Hobhouse, Rogers, Bruce, Trevanion, &c. &c. Have met Hobhouse once before this season (at the Barings'), and got on very smoothly with him. A very curious letter from Brougham in answer to my note.

9th. Dined with Lord Worcester, for the purpose of going to the French Play party. Alvanley had asked me yesterday to meet Heff Consadine and Giles Daxon, but my engagement to Burdett prevented me. The Irish wags, he now told me, were shy. Theodore Hook had joined them in the evening; and, by his power of fun, astonished the Paddies. Consadine, in talking of it to-day to somebody, said, "I never saw such a fellow as that *Horne Tooke*." In the evening Luttrell and I paired off from the Play party, and went to Brookes's; from thence to Lady Cooke's, to Mrs. Cunliffe's, and to Lady Grey's. At Lady Cooke's met Galt, the writer, who told me that he had brought away with him from Upper Canada a

bit of my tree. I asked, "What tree?" "Why, that you used to sit under," he answered, "at Ontario, when you were there." It appears they point out some tree with this recollection attached to it, and that travellers are in the habit of taking away bits of it.

10th. Dined with Rogers: company, Lord Grey, Lord Carlisle, Huskisson, Sturges Bourne, Lord Granville, Brougham, Luttrell, and myself. Brougham very amusing.

12th. Approaching very near the close of my task; the printer having promised me the last proofs on Wednesday next. Brougham having told me last night that he should speak to-day, went down to the House of Commons to hear him. Found there was no house. Dined at the Athenæum.

13th. Went towards five to the House of Commons. Heard but the beginning of Brougham's speech, which was so far heavy and wordy; the benches too nearly empty. Dined with Lord Essex.

15th. Dined with Lord King. 16th, with Lord Lansdowne, to meet some Americans. Forgot to mention Brougham's having asked me at the Fieldings' assembly, (11th), whether Rogers had received Lord Grey's permission before he invited such a party of Huskissonians to meet him: considered it very extraordinary, and was sure Lord Grey viewed it in the same light, "as he was silent the whole day." All this an imagination of Brougham's. Lord Grey, it appears, knew whom he was to meet, and has since said that the party was a very agreeable one.

17th. Set off for Sloperston; even yet not quite finished, as I take the last proofs with me for correction.

18th to 31st. During this month there is nothing to particularize. I had brought down with me the papers which Henry de Ros gave me; and in arranging those relative to Lord Edward Fitzgerald chiefly occupied myself. I forgot to mention that while in town I had seen old Ogilvie on the subject, and found him most promptly disposed to give me all the assistance in his power. Received from him some early letters of Lord Edward, and took down from his relation several particulars of his life.

August 1st to 17th. Received some further materials from Ogilvie; arranged all the papers according to their dates. Employed my-

self also in writing a thing for Power, to be called (I think) the "Summer Fête." Our first intention was to sail for Ireland on the 18th, but we deferred it till the 21st.

18th. Dined at Bowood. Bessy asked, but did not go. Company, the Fellowesses and Bowleses. Walked home at night.

19th. Preparing for departure. Copying out what I have written for Power.

20th. Finished my copying. Between two and three started for Bristol—Bessy, the two boys, Hannah, and myself. Stopped an hour or so at Bath, and got to Bristol, to Harris's hotel between eight and nine.

21st. On board the Killarney packet at seven, and sailed between eight and nine. Beautiful weather. Among our fellow passengers were Lord and Lady Sherbourne and son. Lady S. very agreeable and remarkably kind to Bess; pressed her to occupy her sofa (our berths being the worst in the vessel), as her own intention was to stay on deck the greater part of the night; Bessy, however, declined. The night wretched enough. I lay on the floor of the great cabin.

22nd. The morning very fine, and the Wicklow Mountains to welcome us when we rose. Cast anchor off Kingstown to wait for the tide. Got to Dublin between twelve and one. Took two jaunting cars for ourselves and luggage, and proceeded to Abbey Street. My dearest mother a good deal overcome on meeting us; but, thank God, much better in health and spirits than I expected to find her. My sweet sister Nell just the same gentle spirit as ever; both in great delight with our boys; and my dear Bess never before looked so handsome as she did sitting by my mother, with a face beaming the utmost sweetness and affection, all for my sake. Had a most happy family dinner.

23rd. Walked about with Bessy and the boys. The theatre unluckily shut, but saw there was to be some miserable play or other at Fishamble Street (for the night only), and resolved to take the young ones to it. Crampton called before dinner, and wanted me to dine with him, offering the temptation of Shiel, Curran, and Sir Henry Hardinge; but I remained faithful to the boys. Never was there such a bear-garden as the theatre; nothing but rows from the beginning to the end of the night, and our box (from which there was no

retreat, being the stage box) on the point of being made the theatre of war. Bessy about to hand Russell to the actors to take care of, &c. &c.: but I managed to get the drunken fellow who was the nucleus of the row out of the box, and we finally got away without damage.

24th. Dined (Bessy and I) at Crampton's, having walked about and paid visits in the morning, besides buying a smart bonnet for Bess. Nobody at C.'s but a Mr. Macnamara, who had been at Paris during the late crisis, and gave a most lowering picture of the greater part of the transactions; quite unlike the heroic character thrown around them by the public accounts. Crampton very amusing in the evening; his imitations of the dancing at Donnybrook Fair, &c. &c. Oldham saying of some one, "He lives at the last house of Dublin on the left hand side." Some conversation to-day with Curran about Lord Edward Fitzgerald. Had been told by Judge Johnson that Lord E. disapproved very much of the plan of plundering houses for arms, as it produced unnecessary irritation and alarm, and the arms were better in the keeping of the gentlemen till the fit time came for taking them. All the organization he thought necessary was to train the fellows (in small squads of some fifteen or twenty) to marching by the plummets, performing equal distances in equal times.

25th. Dined at home. Left a note for Major Sirr in the evening. Much pressed to attend a public dinner to-morrow to celebrate the election of Colonel White; a deputation appointed to ask me; but resolved to decline.

26th. A note from Sirr. Called upon him. The rencontre he had with the party the night before Lord Edward's apprehension. Lord E. (if really among them, which he did not seem quite sure of) must have been going, he thinks, to Moira House from Thomas Street. Two ways by which he might come, either Dirty Lane or Watling Street. Sirr divided his forces, and posted himself, accompanied by Regan and Emerson, in Watling Street, his two companions being on the other side of the street. Seized the first of the party, and found a sword, which he drew out; and this was the saving of his life. Assailed by them all, and in stepping back, fell; they prodding at him. His two friends made off. On his

getting again on his legs, two pistols were snapped at him, but missed fire; and his assailants at last made off. On joining the other division of his forces, found that they had encountered the rebel party, and had made one of them prisoner. His suspicious account of himself; a muslin manufacturer. Sirr taking him through Dublin next day; no one recognising him; taking him to Newgate; to the provost; but could find no one to identify him; gave him up to Cook, and then told by some one that he was McCabe, who had organised all. His going to Cook and finding that McCabe had been liberated, having passed himself off as an innocent Scotchman. Fixed with Sirr to call upon him again. Set off with Bess, mother, Nell, and the boys, for Donnybrook Fair, having hired a job carriage; saw shows, &c. &c. Proceeded thence to Kingstown to see my sister Kate, whom I found also better than I expected. Thence to the Mearas' (at whose town house I am very comfortably lodged, while Bessy and the rest are at my mother's): lunched there, and then went on to dine (myself only, the remainder of my party having returned to town) at Cumming's at Roebuck. Party: Rees, Milliken, Reeve, &c. &c. Brought to town at night by Milliken.

27th. Desperate wet day; passed some hours at Milliken's, looking over Irish pamphlets. Dined at Lady Morgan's; company, Curran, Shiel, North, Edward Moore, the Clarks. Lady Morgan's story of her telling Lady Cork, on the morning of one of her assemblies, that she had just seen Sir A. Carlisle, who had been dissecting and preserving the little female dwarf Crachami. "Would it do for a *lion* for to-night?" asked Lady Cork. "Why, I think, hardly." "But surely it would if it's *in spirits*." Their posting off to Sir A. Carlisle's, and Lady C. asking the servant for the little child. "There's no child here, ma'am." "But I mean the child in the bottle." "Oh, this is not the place where we bottle the children, ma'am; that's at master's workshop." In talking of Irish pronunciation, Lord Gort saying, in court, when some one was called forth, "He's in *jeel*." A lady, too, describing the situation of her house, "We've the *bee* in our *rare*" (the bay in our rear). An assembly in the evening, to which Bessy (having got off dining) came, with Ellen and

Tom. Singing by the Miss Clarkes (very good indeed), and my London friend Ratcliffe. I too sung with great applause, being in excellent voice. All agreed that my voice had lost nothing of its freshness, while in strength they thought it improved.

28th. At Milliken's some time, looking over pamphlets. Walked with Cuthbert Eccles, talking of Irish History. Recommends Warner as the best. Some curious things about Glamorgan in Birch; promised to lend me Belling; thinks the Catholic historians far the most trustworthy. Dined at home.

30th. Passed the evening at Abbey Street very comfortably, and had a good night's sleep.

31st. Duke of Leinster called upon me at one o'clock. Some conversation with him about my intended "Life of Lord Edward." Did not think he had any papers that would be of use, as Lord E.'s communications with his father related purely to family affairs, his wish being (though he resided all the time at Leinster House) not to commit the Duke in the conspiracy. Pressed me to come to Carton, which I promised. While he was with me Major Sirr left a card: the man who killed his uncle; such changes does time produce! Showed his card to the Duke, who I found knows him, and thinks him, in his way, a good sort of man. Drove out to pay visits with my mother, Bessy, &c. &c. Dined (Bessy, Tom, and I) at Crampton's; none but themselves. Home pretty early.

September 1st. Fixed to go to Bryan's on Saturday (4th), as the meeting on the subject of the French Revolution, which I have promised to attend, will not take place before Monday week. Drove out in a jaunting car, with my mother and Bess, to visit the Gracings at Dunville, where I once passed a few days as a child, and where I well remember being carried in triumph by other boys to an old ruin of a castle which stood in one of the fields, and there crowned king of the castle,—Callin's Castle (I think it was), now thrown down, and a good house built in its place. As I stood at the end of the garden at Dunville, and looked into the field, it is odd enough that (although from some other changes I had been led to suppose that the field where I used to play was quite in a different direction) I felt at the moment that this must be the spot; though there was nothing but the grass, and

perhaps the relative position of the field to the garden, that was at all likely to act upon my recollections. On my return to the house, I learned that it actually *was* the very spot where I had played during the short period of my visit in childhood, when I could not have been more than seven or eight years old. Such vitality is there in some associations! On returning to town met Shiel, and walked for some time with him. Metaphors, he says, are going fast out of fashion in Ireland; in the courts there is now hardly one to be heard. Remarkd the change in this respect since the time of Temple Emmet, who had great reputation for eloquence, and whom old Peter Burrowes once heard say, in arguing an abstract point of national law, "When twelve eaglets (meaning the United States) left their parent nests, and soared to independence upon dauntless wings." Called with him on the "Evening Post," and sat talking some time with Magee and Conway. Shiel thinks I should have no difficulty whatever in getting into Parliament for some Irish seat, if I but looked to it. Dined in Abbey Street, and having borrowed the files of the "Evening Post" for 1792—5, passed the evening looking over them. In talking with Peter Burrowes this morning, got on the subject of Robert Emmet, whose counsel I found Burrowes had been. Told me that Emmet, on his apprehension, had confided some money he had about him (together with a letter) to somebody he thought he could trust, to be delivered to Miss Curran. The person, whoever it was, pocketed the money, and carried the letter to the government; on hearing which Emmet, in despair at the thought of having committed the girl by anything he might have said in the letter, addressed, through some channel or other, the most earnest entreaties to the government that they would suppress the letter, engaging himself, if they would do so, not to say a word in his own defence, but to go to his death in silence. This latter offer he made, knowing how much it was an object with the authorities that he should not address the people. Burrowes told me, too, that during the trial, whenever he was endeavoring to disconcert any of the witnesses in his cross-examination, Emmet would check him, and say, "No, no; the man's speaking truth." This was, however, only on points bearing against himself; for whatever testi-

mony was likely to involve or criminate others, he showed the utmost anxiety that the truth should not appear. When Burrowes, too, was about to avail himself of the privilege of reply (wearied to death with anxiety, and feeling both the painfulness and inutility of what he was about to do), Emmet said, "Pray do not attempt to defend me; it is all in vain;" and Burrowes accordingly desisted. Nothing could be more warm and unqualified than Burrowes's praise of him and his feeling for his memory.

3rd. One of these mornings called on Major Sirr, and had his description of the seizure of Lord Edward. Got the information as to where he was but the moment before he acted upon it. Ryan and Swan happened to be with him at the time: took five or six soldiers in plain clothes with him; when arrived in Thomas Street sent for the pickets of cavalry and infantry in the neighbourhood; had altogether between two and three hundred men. While he was fixing the pickets round the house, Swan ran upstairs; soon after which Sirr, hearing a shot, ran up also, and found Lord Edward struggling with Swan and Ryan, the latter at his feet. Could not well make out whether Sirr fired from the hall (they being at the top of the stairs), or from the landing at the top into the room (they being still in the room); rather think the latter. Ryan had only a sword cane. Lord E. again making efforts to escape in the hall, and it was then he was wounded by the drummer. Neilson told Sirr afterwards that had it not been for the number of soldiers he had collected, there would have been a rescue, as he (Neilson) had 500 fellows ready to undertake it. Dined in Abbey Street. Ordered chaise to be with us early in the morning.

4th. Set off, with Bessy, the boys, and Hannah, for Jenkinstown, starting at twenty minutes past seven. Breakfasted at Kilcullen Bridge. Arrived at Bryan's at six; found them all delight to see us. A Mrs. Keating on a visit with them, and George, who has been ill, there also. Had seen Mrs. George Ryan before we left town.

6th. Drove into Kilkenny, with Bryan and Bessy. In looking along the walk by the river, under the Castle, my sweet Bess and I recollected the time when we used, in our love-making days, to stroll for hours there together.

We did not love half so *really* then as we do now. Heard from Mr. Fitzsimon (O'Connell's son-in-law), on the subject of the French meeting. Wants me to write an address for them to the French nation, but declined. Colonel Lecky, who commands at Kilkenny, called to invite us all to a *déjeuner* on Wednesday.

7th. Asked to lay the first stone of a new house building for George in the neighbourhood of Jenkinstown. In starting for this ceremony the horses in Mrs. Bryan's carriage showed rather alarming restiveness. Bessy went with George in his curricule, and Tom and I walked. After the laying of the stone, Bryan ordered ten barrels of beer to the workmen: but on the master builder representing to him that this would make them drunk for a week, the choice was given them whether they would have the beer or the value of it (one pound a barrel), and they wisely and *un-irishly* chose the money, having one barrel of beer (which George had before ordered them) to drink. In returning home Mrs. Bryan's horses ran restive against the gate, broke the pole, and threw off the postillion; luckily no further harm done; but the horses of George's curricule also becoming unmanageable, I, with much fear and trepidation, got Bessy and Tom down from it, cursing, in my heart, all such over-fed, never-worked horses.

8th. Helped Tom a little with his Greek holiday task. Much discussions and doubtings as to the horses that were to be put to the carriages to-day; my wish being to send for post-horses, but I was over-ruled. Set off between two and three. The Bryans, Mrs. Keating, and Bessy in the coach-and-four, and Tom and I in the curricule, with a postillion and pair. Got there very safely. Walked with Tom into Kilkenny, to show it to him. Called at Mr. Banim's (the father of the author of the "Tales of the O'Hara Family," who keeps a little powder and shot shop in Kilkenny), and not finding him at home, left a memorandum to say that I had called out of respect to his son. Took care to impress upon Tom how great the merit of a young man must be who, with not one hundredth part of the advantages of education that he (Tom) had in his power, could yet so distinguish himself as to cause this kind of tribute of respect to be paid to his father. I have not, it is true, read more than one of Banim's stories myself, but that one was good,

and I take the rest upon credit. Besides, he dedicated his second series to me, calling me "Ireland's free son and true poet," which was handsome of him. A paragraph, by-the-bye, in the Kilkenny paper (of yesterday, I believe), in mentioning that they had seen me drive through the town with Captain Bryan, apparently in good health and spirits, added that the latter seemed to sink a little when I looked at the theatre, the scene of my former gaieties, and saw the place turned into a horse bazaar, where I once used to make the galleries roar in *Peeping Tom* and *Robin Roughhead*. The party at the barracks very numerous and gay; the dinner well managed; and the dancing afterwards, if not very graceful, at least active enough. My old friends, the Powers of Kilfane, there, and glad I was, for the sake of old times, to see them. Pressed us much to go to Kilfane, but cannot spare the time. Sat next Major Campbell, an intelligent, manly officer. In speaking of Napier, said his book was their "Bible." Quoted what some French officer of note had said, in speaking of the British troops: he had remarked as very formidable, "*cet affreux silence que l'on observe en marchant en ligne*." In coming back Tom and I obliged to join them in the carriage, from the heavy rain. Had a near escape of being upset at the turn-town to Jenkinstown, which, the postillions, being drunk, had passed too far to turn with safety; the leaders, however, being taken off, we managed it, and got home, for a wonder, with bones unbroken.

9th. Took a solitary walk towards Castle Comer. Thought of some points for my speech. Mrs. Bryan quoting from the "Deserter," about war, "*C'est une belle chose quand on en est revenu*."

10th. Off in the Kilkenny coach for town. Coach called for us at the house, and took us most comfortably to town (having taken the inside to ourselves) before six o'clock.

11th. Met Lady Campbell driving about; got into the carriage with her. Conversation about her father (Lord Edward). Lady Lansdowne had already told me that she was rather apprehensive as to the prudence of the projected "Life." Her exclamation, on hearing that I had so many of his letters, she never having seen a scrap of her father's handwriting. Asked us to dinner to-morrow. Dined at Crampton's.

12th. Dined with the Campbells. Company, only the Richard Napiers, who took Bessy; Tom and I following in a hackney coach. Lady C. told me the circumstances connected with Lord E.'s escape from arrest, which she had heard from an old woman-servant of the family. Tony, the black, giving the alarm to Lord E., and the latter escaping (it was at Leinster House) by the stables. The officer who came to make the search (Swan I think,) saying, when he required her keys to look for papers, "It is a very disagreeable task for a gentleman to be employed in:" and Lady Edward answering, with much dignity, "It is a task no gentleman would perform." A few days after this, Lady Edward having gone to lodge in Denzille Street, the same woman, coming into the room in the evening, saw Lord and Lady E. sitting over the fire together and in tears.

13th. A dinner party at my mother's; the Mearas, O'Meara, and Peter Lee. All very nicely done; my sweet Bess having worked hard to have everything comfortable and creditable. A large addition to the party in the evening, and dancing, refreshments, &c. &c.; my mother in high spirits at seeing her family and friends about her.

14th. Dined (I alone) at Crampton's. Called for by Bessy and Ellen in the evening to go to a party at Mrs. Smith's. Music; sung. Have observed (what I should not have believed had I not witnessed it) that the Irish are much colder as auditors (to my singing, at least) than the English. Nothing like the same *empressement*, the crowding towards the pianoforte, the eagerness for more, which I am accustomed to in most English companies. This may be, perhaps, from my being made so much of a *lion* here, or from some notion of good breeding and finery, some idea probably that it is more fashionable and *English* not to be too much moved. From whatever reason it may proceed, it is the last thing I should have expected.

15th. Day of the meeting to celebrate the late French Revolution. Went at one o'clock; Bessy, Ellen, Mrs. Meara, &c., having gone before. Saw that they were well placed, and my little Tom with them. The Committee still in deliberation on the forms of proceeding. At this time more than 2000 persons collected: the room (the National Mart) being nearly full.

Shiel one of the earliest speakers ; his manner, action, &c., all made me tremble a little for his chances of success in the House of Commons, about which I had before felt very sanguine. His voice has no *medium* tone, and, when exerted, becomes a scream ; his action theatrical, and of the *barn* order of theatricals ; but still his oratorical powers great, and capable of producing (in an Irish audience at least) great excitement. It was wished that I should second the resolution he proposed, and a call to that effect was becoming very general, but I resolved not. About this time the doors, which had been closed, were burst open by the people without, and the room was completely filled : supposed to be about 3000 persons in all. After a resolution proposed by Mr. Hamilton, late candidate for the county of Dublin, the call for me became obstreperous, and I rose. My reception almost astoundingly enthusiastic. For some minutes I got on with perfect self-possession, but my very success alarmed me, and I at once lost the thread of what I was about to say ; all seemed to have vanished from my mind. It was a most painful moment, and Shiel (who was directly under me) told me afterwards that I had turned quite pale. I was enough collected, however, to go on saying *something*, though *what* I hardly knew, till at length my mind worked itself clear, and I again got full possession of my subject. So luckily, too, had I managed these few minutes of aberration, that, as I found afterwards, the greater part of my audience gave me credit for having assumed this momentary fit of embarrassment. From this on to the end my display was most successful ; and the consciousness that every word *told* on my auditory, reacted back again upon me with a degree of excitement that made me feel capable of *anything*. The shouts, the applauses, the waving of hats, &c., after I had finished, lasted for some minutes. I heard Shiel too, as I concluded, say with much warmth, "He is a most beautiful speaker !" Found Bessy and Ellen where they sat as soon as I could, and had to make up my face to stand, for the rest of the day, the uninterrupted stare of some dozens of girls near us, many of them as good specimens of the "*beau sang*" of Ireland as could be found. I found that a very melancholy thought had crossed my dear Bessy's mind at the time when I paused in my speech. "He is think-

ing," she said to herself, "of Anastasia : " and her heart beat so violently with the idea, that she thought she should have fainted. It is true I had often during the day thought with sad regret of our sweet child, and the delight she would have felt in witnessing my success had she been spared to us ; but, of course, at the moment of my bewilderment I thought of nothing but how to find my way back again. It was, however, a natural consequence of the state of excitement into which Bessy had been thrown by the whole scene (for at the first peal of acclamation on my entering the room, she burst into tears) to have such sad thoughts mingle with her pleasure and triumph. The *surgit amari aliquid* is so desolatingly true ! Two of the speakers that succeeded me very good, Murphy and Sheehan (editor of the "Mail") ; the only two I heard that struck me as likely to do in the House of Commons. Between four and five, with some difficulty, got Bessy and Tom away (my sister having gone before). As soon as the meeting perceived me going, the acclamations were renewed ; found outside a large concourse of people to receive us, who hurried, shook hands, &c. ; and, when we got into the carriage, insisted upon taking the horses off, and drawing us home. When we had proceeded half up the quay, however, I prevailed upon them to put the horses to again, and having provided myself with a pound's worth of silver, scattered it all for a scramble among my escorters, and got quietly home. Had promised Stanton of the "Morning Register" to try and furnish him with as correct a notice of my speech as I could muster up from recollection, and after dinner went to Bachelor's Walk for that purpose. Found there emissaries from the other morning papers waiting with the same design upon me, but referred them all to Stanton, who had promised me to give them slips from his copy. Having dispatched off my report (the *devil* waiting in the room the greater part of the time while I wrote it), dressed for my mother's party, which I found already assembled. Sung to them, and did the honours as well as fatigue would let me. O'Connell's daughter (Mrs. Fitz-Simon, a very nice person) among the guests. Did not get to bed till late.

16th. Dined at Crampton's, to meet Sir H. and Lady Emily Hardinge. Bessy asked, but did not go. No one else but Mr. Wood. Sir

Henry very agreeable and communicative. Among other things, in speaking of the Duke of Wellington's powers of letter-writing, mentioned that those letters in the affair with Lord Winchelsea (in which Hardinge was his second) were written off at the moment with pencil, on being called out of the House of Lords by Hardinge as the negotiation went on. Said also, that the night he went to the Duke to tell him there was nothing left for them but to fight, he found the Duke in bed and asleep. It was then one o'clock; and after waking him, and mentioning what must be done, the Duke coolly said, "Very well; see that I am called early enough in the morning;" and, turning round, betook himself to sleep again. A good deal of conversation on general politics, and Hardinge unreserved on every subject. In the evening, as he and I stood together, talking of the present state of parties, he said, "A strange position ours (meaning the Ministry) is at this moment: in the first place——." Here we were provokingly interrupted by Crampton's coming to tell us that a young lady was going to play the harp; by which unlucky *contretemps*, the Secretary was stopped in his revelations, and I lost (as Grumio says) "many things of worthy memory, which now shall die in oblivion, and I return unexperienced to my grave." Had settled this evening with Cassidy (the brother of a new acquaintance of mine who has invited me down to his house at Monastereven to meet Judge Johnson) that I would join him and Mr. Murphy (the Murphy that spoke so well at the meeting) in a chaise to-morrow morning to Monastereven. One of my great objects has been to have an opportunity of conversing with Judge Johnson on the subject of Lord Edward Fitzgerald; and Mr. Cassidy, in whose neighbourhood Johnson lives, has arranged our meeting for me. Sir H. Hardinge, by the bye, complimented me on my speech far more than I could have expected from such a quarter.

17th. Started before eleven. Murphy a well-informed, agreeable man. Mentioned Lord Plunket saying of Lord Lyndhurst (whom he likes), "Indifference is the vice of that man's mind." Told some other things of Plunket, and a good many rather amusing anecdotes, which, from not journalising at the time, I have forgotten. Stopped at Kildare to look at the

spot where Lord Edward's cottage (Conolly's Lodge?) once stood. No trace of it now. It adjoined the castle; the passage to it up a narrow, dirty lane. Went from thence to call upon a man of the name of Garry, a farmer, who was one of Lord Edward's captains in 1798. A fine, grave, handsome, and intelligent spoken old fellow, who showed, by the way he spoke of passing events, that the fire of '98 was not quite extinct in him. "It is of the Kingdom of God (he said) I have now alone to think; but still, to the last moment of my life, it will always give me pleasure to hear of the downfall of despotism." Arrived at Monastereven between four and five. Went to old Mr. Cassidy's, and having left Murphy (who was his son-in-law) and the younger Cassidy there, proceeded to the house of *my* host, about a mile and a half from Monastereven. Joined at dinner by Mr. and Mrs. Murphy, Miss Cassidy, &c. &c. Music in the evening. Excellent people, and all of them (except Murphy) as good rebels as need be. Murphy, who, it is evident, has an eye to getting on by English Whig interest, differs altogether from the radical views of his brothers-in-law. Judge Johnson could not come to-day, but has been invited by Cassidy to join us at breakfast in the morning.

18th. Walked with Cassidy in his garden before breakfast. Much talk with him about the state of Ireland at present. Resumed the subject we had already spoken of after dinner yesterday, namely, the chance (or rather, as he thinks, the *certainly*) of my being brought in for some Irish county, if I should desire it. Murphy said yesterday that it was the general talk of everybody on the day after the meeting. The elective power in Ireland now so constituted that none but candidates on popular principles are likely henceforward to succeed; the ten-pound freehold system having given the power of voting to a class of men on whom public opinion directly acts, namely, the shopkeepers and small farmers. Left Cassidy in the garden for some time, and on returning saw with him a short, slight figure (the back turned towards me), with a light step, and dressed in a neat blue coat and a foraging cap. Though aware that Judge Johnson was expected, I could hardly believe that this slight boyish figure could be the venerable eighty-year-old judge; but so it was. After break-

fast a good deal of conversation with him, which I have made memorandums of elsewhere. Drove out in Cassidy's open carriage with him, Mrs. C., and Judge Johnson; went to see Moore Park, and from thence to Johnson's House. He had already explained to me Lord Edward's views with respect to the best mode of training the people to arms; having observed, while in America, that the Indians, who are the best marksmen (with the rifle) in the world, brought their eye and hand to this perfection by practising with bows and arrows from childhood; this method not only saving the expense of powder and shot (which they could of course by no means afford), but enabling them equally well to attain that sympathy between the eye and hand which makes the good marksman, and which, after such practice, they could in a fortnight transfer to the use of the rifle. Lord Edward's notion was to introduce this habit among the young Irish. In connection with this, I may mention a curious instance of the readiness with which even the fairest men allow themselves to misrepresent things, either for the sake of a joke, or merely to surprise their hearers. In talking to me of Johnson, in Dublin, William Curran said, "He has some odd whims, which you must be on your guard against: for instance, he thinks that the salvation of Ireland is to be brought about by bows and arrows." This, of course, made me stare, which is all perhaps that it was intended for; but the suppression of all that lends rationality to Johnson's plan makes the whole difference both in the force and truth of the statement. It is certainly quite true, however, that Johnson's head runs upon military matters in a way most strange (to say the least of it) in an ex-judge of eighty. As soon as we got to his house, he took me into the library to show me the sort of short rifle which Lord Edward recommended instead of the long unwieldy one used by the Americans and Indians; also, the kind of pike contrived either by Lord E. or Johnson himself, to be used in *popular* warfare, as at once the most effective and portable. This pike, the handle of which is immensely long, but, from being hollow, extremely light, divides in two when not meant for use, and can thus be conveniently strapped to one shoulder while the small rifle is slung to the other, leaving the hands of the soldier perfectly

free. It was curious to see the little old judge in an erect posture, and with an eye full of fire (as if anticipating the sort of use that was to be made of the weapon), slinging the rifle over his shoulder to show me with what ease it could be carried. His history is remarkable. He was originally one of the Whig followers of Grattan, &c., in the cause of Irish independence; but on an occasion, as he himself explained to me, when a motion for the relief of the Catholics was brought forward under the influence of the Government (1783), and was defeated by the Whigs insidiously recommending, as he said, the Catholics to couple Reform with their politics, he so much resented, according to his own account, this double dealing, that without any hesitation he accepted offers made by the Government to join them, and continued from thenceforward attached to Castle politics. "In fact," said he, with great *naïveté*, "we were all jobbers at that time." For his vote for the Union he was made a judge, and now holds a pension from the Government of 1500*l.* a year, which enables him to publish pamphlets in Paris, recommending separation from England. Our drive altogether very agreeable. All the Cassidy's at dinner. Music in the evening.

19th. Chaise at the door at eight, being obliged to return to town, to attend as collector to a Catholic charity sermon. Cassidy accompanied me as far as Monastereven. Pressed me on the subject of coming into Parliament, and said he would answer for there being such a requisition to me, in case of a vacancy, as I should find it difficult to refuse. Showed me a letter to him from O'Connell on the proposed system of agitation, which he had just answered, telling O'Connell that he thought the Repeal of the Union ought not yet to be brought forward; but that grievances on grievances should be thrust in the Government's face, till at length the English themselves should be wearied out, and feel quite as ready to separate as the Irish. At all events, Cassidy told him, that if the question of Repeal was to be urged, he (O'Connell) would do it more harm than good by putting himself at the head of it. This I quite agree with him in. The day a most desperate one; almost blown out of the crazy chaises: but amused myself on the way by composing a squib against Galt's "Life of Byron," which that

wretched thing richly deserves. Arrived a little after two, and proceeded to Dominick Street Chapel, where I was introduced into the preacher's room, and found cake and wine prepared. Learned that Bessy, Nell, and the boys were already in the chapel. The sermon in an austere spirit, demanding charity to the poor as a right. The collection followed, which I began by putting 1*l.* in the plate, and had to stand a pretty good staring from all the other contributors. At the end I was told that an old lady who could not come to the plate had reserved her money for the purpose of giving it to me, and begged that I would come to her which I did; and the poor lady, who was nearly blind, all but hugged me, to the amusement of the bystanders. Bessy, &c. invited up to the priest's room, where we were introduced to several other priests, all very well-mannered and amiable-looking men. On coming out to walk home, we found almost the whole congregation waiting for us in the street. They took off their hats respectfully to us, and the greater part of them followed us the whole way to Abbey Street (in perfect silence, it being Sunday), and then took leave of us at the door. Was delighted to see that my poor mother was at the window and witnessed our escort. My sister Kate dined with us.

20th. Dined at home, having taken a box at the Adelphi Theatre for the evening. Found out before long, by the audience, and after almost every act was hailed with plaudits. "Clap for Moore!" "Clap for Mr. Moore and his family!" &c. &c. When we were coming out at the end, found numbers of the people (though we had waited till the last to avoid it) assembled in the rooms below and outside, who cheered, shook hands, and huzzaed us off most uproariously.

21st. Dined at Crampton's; Shiel was to have come, but could not. In mentioning to Shiel how much I was pleased with the rough, straightforward eloquence of a man who spoke at the meeting, named R —, and how direct from his heart he appeared to me to speak, Shiel said, "You must not be too much taken by that fellow: he is what we call here, a brewer's patriot; most of the great brewers having upon their establishment a regular patriot, who goes about among the publicans, talking violent politics, and so helps to sell the beer." So much, indeed, have politics to do

with trade in Dublin, that one very extensive brewer (whose name he mentioned) lost all his customers by taking the side of the veto.

22nd. Had written, on my return from Monastereven to the Duke of Leinster, to say that I would come to Carton on Wednesday (to-day) if he would receive me; but that Mrs. Moore (whom he had invited, together with the boys) would not be able to accompany me. Gave my squib to Conway for to-morrow night's "Evening Post." Started for Carton in a chaise about half-past three. Company at dinner besides the Duke and Duchess and Lord William, Lady Caroline Stanhope, Lord — (one of the Fitzroys, I believe, but forget), the pretty Miss Stanhope, and the Miss Colmans. Music in the evening; Miss Colman and myself, and the Duke at his double bass. My voice in very good force, and by no means thrown away upon my audience. Miss Colman a very agreeable singer and guitarist.

23rd. Desperately wet. Started after breakfast in a chaise, and got to town between twelve and one. Saw a proof of my squib at the "Evening Post" office at three, and despatched a slip off to the "Times" for insertion. Saw Luttrell, who arrived the day before yesterday, and was to meet us at dinner to-day at Sir Henry Hardinge's. Called upon (Bessy and myself) by the Cramptons to take us to the Park to dinner. Company: Lord Brecknock, Archdeacon Singleton, Dr. Wood, &c. &c. Hardinge very communicative after dinner. He told, as illustrative of the vicissitudes to which a soldier's life is subject, the circumstances of his lying to have his hand amputated (after the wound he received at Waterloo) in a wretched hovel on the road, and then in a month after sleeping in one of the royal beds (at St. Cloud, I believe) by the particular desire of Blucher, who insisted upon his choosing this gorgeous resting-place. Sung in the evening. Lady Emily a good deal affected by one of the songs.

24th. Had been told that Mr. T. Browne the builder, of Bagot Street, knew a good deal about Lord Edward, and was also in possession of the dagger with which he killed Ryan. Called upon him and found him at home; a good deal of conversation of which I have preserved notes elsewhere. The dagger not to be found; but he is continuing his search for

it. Mentioned Mrs. Dillon (Shee's aunt), and said the Berrills [?] could procure me access to her. Called upon the Berrills, and begged of the daughter to write to Mrs. Dillon [who lives at Bray] on the subject. Dined at home.

25th. Dined at Crampton's, Bessy, Nell and myself. Company: Archdeacon Singleton, Lord Brecknock, Ratcliffe, and Luttrell. Lord Brecknock took out our dear little Nell to dinner. The Frankses and music in the evening. Singleton very civilly lent us his carriage home. A card from the Duke of Northumberland to dine with him on Monday next.

26th. Miss Berrill having arranged for me to go to Mrs. Dillon (at Bray) this morning, called at Berrill's between ten and eleven, in a hired chariot (little Tom with me), and, accompanied by Kate Berrill, proceeded to Bray. Day delightful. Mrs. Dillon, a fine specimen of an old patriotic Irishwoman, between seventy and eighty; and has lost her eyesight, but the mind and the rebel spirit as fresh as ever. Her enthusiasm in talking of Lord Edward, "Ah, the sweet fellow!" Have set down elsewhere memorandums of what she and her daughter told me. Got home to Abbey Street about five, and dined there. Have received a letter from Sir C. Morgan in the name of the Dawson Street Club (chiefly Catholic), to beg that I would fix a day to dine with them, but have declined on account of the uncertainty of my time of departure. This is the third dinner that has been in contemplation for me; one of the others being a mob feast, at six shillings a-head, which Jack Lawless wants to get up for me. And as a good contrast to this, Crampton tells me that the Kildare Street Club (which is deep Orange) had some intention of inviting me.

27th. Have been petitioned these two days past to patronise the benefit of the managers at the Adelphi to-night, but being engaged to the Park, endeavoured to make that an excuse. However, the man has been so pressing that we consented to take a box, and I shall join Bessy and her party as soon as possible from the Park. Taken to dinner (Luttrell and I) by Crampton. The Duke of Northumberland (whom I used to know ages ago as Lord Percy) recognised me very kindly as an old acquaintance. Company: the Hardinges, Singletons, the Dean of Emly, Sir John Byng,

&c. Before we went out to dinner, one of the aides-de-camp, Doyle, whispered me (evidently from authority) to get as near the Duchess as I could at dinner; but as I am not good at pushing, my attempts thereat failed. The Duchess played and sung rather agreeably, after which my turn came, and then the Duchess sung with me one or two of my own duets. As soon as we saw that we could get away, Crampton and I slipped off and got to the theatre about the middle of the farce. There had been several cheerings during the night for Mr. Moore's family; and now, after the first act of the farce, I got my greetings in a most enthusiastic style, and was obliged to stand up and acknowledge the acclamations more than once. When we were coming out, too, the crowd were in attendance at the door, and I was obliged to make my way through handshakings and huzzas to the carriage. Poor little Nell and her escorter were for some time separated from us by the dense wall of people that surrounded the carriage, and it was with some difficulty she got to us. One fellow in the mob said, "Well, Mr. Moore, you'll stay a little longer with us now, won't you?" Meara came home to supper. Crampton mentioned that the Duke and Duchess this evening were talking of asking Bessy to the Park, should we prolong our stay.

28th. Have been lucky enough to find out Murphy, the man in whose house Lord Edward was taken, and who, they told me, had died long since in America; while all the while he has been living quietly in the same unlucky Thomas Street, though not in the same house. So difficult it is to come at facts! Have taken notes of my conversations with him elsewhere. Dined at Lady Morgan's: company, Luttrell, Shiel, Curran, Wallace, and Shiel's new wife. Bessy and Nell came in the evening. Had music.

29th. Occupied in preparing for our departure. It has been my intention (at least wish) to return by Bristol, as the saving in fatigue and expense would have been considerable, and Bessy on both accounts desired it very much; but the weather had become so invariably stormy, that I, at last, decided for Holyhead. Dined in Abbey Street, and took leave of my dearest mother (who was, of course, sadly down at the prospect of losing us) about ten o'clock, having ordered a job coach to come

in the morning to take us to Howth. Altogether our visit has been a most happy one. My mother and Nell had known little of my excellent Bessy but through my report of her, it now being fifteen years since they had (for a few weeks, and living in separate houses) any opportunity of knowing her. They have now, however, had her with them as one of themselves, and the result has been what I never could doubt it would be. Her devoted attention to my mother, her affection to dear Nell, all was in the best spirit of amiableness and good sense. Being better able to see than I could all the little things, in the way of comfort, that my poor mother's establishment wants, she has, in the nicest and most delicate way, procured them, and made a few pounds do wonders in this way. The two boys, too, have been a great delight to my mother. Young Mulvany has painted a picture of her for me, with Tom leaning on her lap; and Lever has done a very successful portrait of dear Russell, taking his idea of the attitude, &c., from my song of "Love is a hunter boy."

30th. Off from Abbey Street before eight, and arrived at Howth some time before the packet was ready to start. A good deal alarmed by a horse that broke loose with a cart, and ran in all directions about the pier. Our captain was Bessy's old favourite, Stevens, with whom she sailed the last time she came over to Ireland. Found both him and our passage very agreeable, the latter not six hours' duration. He insisted on our dining at his house; and we passed a very comfortable day with him and Mrs. Stevens. Was lucky enough to get the inside of the coach to ourselves to Shrewsbury. Slept at Spencer's.

October 1st. The morning wet, but cleared up when we got out of Anglesey; and nothing could be more delightful than all the rest of the day; our journey lying through such a series of pictures, and Bessy had never before seen the Menai Bridge. Arrived at Shrewsbury in time for tea, and a very comfortable night's rest, our whole party having enjoyed themselves thoroughly.

2nd. Thought ourselves lucky in again getting the inside of the coach for Worcester; but found that it stopped, two hours, half way, where we were to be taken up by another coach. On this coach coming in, there turned out to be a hitch about the places, as it was

quite full, and they were going to forward us in what they called a car; but on my making a little piece of work, they dispossessed the other passengers, and we proceeded in the coach to Worcester.

3rd. Started in a chaise and travelled post the rest of the way home to Sloperton, where we arrived before six o'clock: a beautiful evening to welcome us; and all kissed and congratulated each other on the safe and happy termination of our agreeable excursion.

4th. Found the whole neighbourhood in a paroxysm of dancing and dining, which was anything but what I wished, as quiet and hard work were now indispensable to me after my late ruinous run of idleness. Bessy, however, having been so long in arrears with all the neighbours in the way of visiting, and her health and spirits being now, thank God, so much better than I have seen them for years, I thought it a pity not to take advantage of her mood, and so went on idling again, as usual. A great ball to-morrow night given to the yeomanry, to which we are asked, but shall not go.

5th. Our dear fellow traveller Tom left us for school; a week beyond his time.

8th. Dined at Napier's, and went with them to Mrs. Salmon's ball, which was very well worth going to; nothing could be prettier or more tastefully managed. In talking to Watson Taylor about Lord Edward, he took occasion to assure me that Lord Camden was, in Ireland, constantly out-voted in his wish for a more moderate system of government, by Clare and Castlereagh.

9th to 16th. Busy, as far as people will let me, with my "Life of Lord Edward" and the "Summer Fête" for Power. One of these mornings my darling Bessy came me, with her eyes full of tears, bringing some lines written down, half prose and half poetry, which had come into her head, as she lay awake thinking of our dear lost Anastasia. I could not help crying myself on reading them, and was sorry I let her tear the paper. Dined at Salmon's, at Phipps's, and at Scott's; Bessy at the two latter with me. Asked to Henneage's, but refused.

20th. Have been invited to Watson Taylor's to meet the Duchess of Kent and young Victoria.

23rd. Walked into Devizes, Watson Taylor

having fixed for me to be there at three, to be taken by him to Earl Stoke. Got to Earl Stoke about four. Rather amused with being behind the scenes to see the fuss of preparation for a royal reception. About half past five the Duchess and Princess arrived; found that Sir J. Conroy, their attendant, was an old acquaintance of mine. No guests to-day at dinner but myself, Lady Theodosia Hall, and Fisher (the Duchess's chaplain); this being a private day. Music in the evening. The Duchess sung a duet or two with the Princess Victoria, and several very pretty German songs by herself. One or two by Weber and Hummel particularly pretty, and her manner of singing just what a lady's ought to be. No attempts at bravura or graces, but all simplicity and expression. I also sung several songs, with which her R. H. was pleased to be pleased. Evidently very fond of music, and would have gone on singing much longer if there had not been rather premature preparations for bed.

24th. After breakfast proceeded to the little church on W. Taylor's ground. The morning very fine, and the groups waiting under the shade of the trees for the arrival of the two carriages with the royal ladies, &c., made a very pretty picture. Sat in the new pew with their Royal Highnesses. Fisher, the officiator. After luncheon went to view the farm, &c.: the ladies in the carriages, and I walked with the young Taylors. Large party at dinner; Lord and Lady Sidmouth, the Members for Devizes and the county, the Mayor, &c.; none of the ladies of the neighbourhood asked, from the invidious difficulty, of course, of making a selection. Great anxiety for music in the evening, but the Duchess very prudently (it being Sunday), and very much to my satisfaction, protested against it.

25th. After breakfast the Duchess expressed a wish for a little more music, and she and the Princess and myself sung a good deal. The Duchess sung over three or four times with me, "Go where glory waits thee," pronouncing the words very prettily, and altogether singing it more to my taste than any one I ever found. Repeated also her pretty German songs, and very graciously promised me copies of them, having intimated how much she should like to have copies of those songs I had sung for her. At two their R. H.'s took their leave

for Salisbury, and I soon after departed for Devizes, on my way to Locke's, where Bessy was to meet me, to pass a few days; an old promise. Company at Locke's, the David Macdonalds. Had a good deal of conversation this morning with my old *butt*, Lord Sidmouth, who recognised me with great courtesy, referred to the times of our first meeting, five and twenty years ago, at Miles P. Andrews's, and at Mr. Gosling's, and talked a good deal of poor Lady Donegal. Repeated to me, as words which he thought would do very well for me to set to music, some very spirited lines (from the German,* I believe) addressed by a warrior to his sword. I spoke of Lord Stowell (Lady Sidmouth's father), and his opinion upon the question of *Slave Grace* (?), in opposition to that of Lord Mansfield a few years ago, when he was turned eighty, showing such strength and clearness of intellect. So little, however, did Lord and Lady Sidmouth think him capable, at that time, of such an effort, that had they been consulted as to his undertaking it they would have most earnestly deprecated it. Quoted what a great American judge (?) had written to Lord Stowell concerning his Admiralty judgments, to the effect, that though the Americans had been naturally discontented with decisions so much against their interest during the war, his book had now become a portion of their Maritime Law.

November 1st to 30th. From this to the 12th of December, remained at home and at work, chiefly upon my *Life of Lord Edward*, my sole interruption, and a very agreeable one, being a visit from my old friend Corry, who came on the 19th to dinner. On the 20th had the Starkeys and Mrs. Collings to meet him, and all were highly amused with his well acted stories. 21st. Took him (Bessy and I) to Bowles's church, and lunched there; Bowles full of alarm at the riots now spreading through the country. The Prowses that day dined with us, and on the next Corry left us for London. Henry Bushe's account of his place to the Sinecure Committee, that he was "Resident Surveyor, with perpetual leave of absence." "Don't you do any work for it?" "Nothing, but receive my salary four times a year." "Do you receive that yourself?" "No, by deputy."

December 1st to 12th. Preparing the first

* In reference to Körner's famous song, probably

part (about half) of my MS. of Lord Edward for the press.

13th. Started for town, taking Bessy to Buckhill in my way. Her health, I grieve to say, which has shown such signs of improvement since our return from Ireland, has again within these few days given way; and an attack of illness has at once taken away almost all the good looks and strength she had gained. My companions on the coach, an M.P. (could not make out his name), and a gentleman who had been in the army. The former a staunch political economist and anti-slavery man; the latter, upon most points differing with him, and their arguments the whole way through very amusing. By occasionally taking part with one and the other, I kept up the ball between them, and was appealed to with more deference and anxiety by each from their not knowing *which* I would agree with. The M.P. in talking of the late King, remarked how entirely he was forgotten, or, if at all remembered or mentioned, what a true view was now taken of his worthless character. He then quoted from my lines on the death of Sheridan,—

"Forgotten as fool, or remember'd as worse;"

saying, as he quoted them, "I forget who those lines were written by." "They are Moore's," I answered. "True," he replied, "they were said, I remember, to be Moore's." "I suppose," remarked the Captain, "we shall have Tom Moore now coming into office." "Oh no," interrupted the political economist, in a tone that made me rather apprehensive of what was coming (the Benthamites being, to a man, deadly enemies of mine); and though the Captain very good-naturedly put in a word for me, saying, "Why, he's counted a very talented man in other ways than poetry," I lost no time in putting an end to the topic by saying, "No, I don't think it is at all likely," and then started a fresh subject of conversation. Felt rather tempted to reveal myself to them before we parted, but did not. After leaving my portmanteau at Sandon's, went to Power's, where I found Tom, his holidays having been begun to-day. Thence to the printer's, and found that they were hard at work getting the second volume of Byron out. Supped at Power's.

14th. Breakfasted at the Athenæum. Called upon Rogers, who had been very ill.

Learned from R. that Barbara Godfrey was in town, at Stratford Canning's, and went to call upon her. Sat some time. Dined with Rogers; his sister and niece of the company. Talked of Mackintosh's History; thinks the style very bad. Remarked the use of the genitive "whose," as applied to things, pronouncing it vicious. (N. B. Having looked since in Johnson, and find it authorised both by Shakespeare and Prior: "Thy name affrights me, in *whose* sound, &c.;" and Prior has "Those darts, whose points.") Observed that the life of Alfred had now been written by four great men, Milton, Hume, Burke, and Mackintosh. Wrote to Lord John, whom I met to-day at Brookes's, to come to breakfast at Rogers's the day after to-morrow.

15th. Breakfasted at home, expecting Washington Irving to call upon me, and employed in transcribing what remained unfinished of the copy I brought up. Irving came. My American business (that is, the negotiation for me with the American booksellers for their edition of the Life of Byron) was the subject I wished to speak to him upon. The sheets have been regularly sent, and he thinks there is no doubt of my receiving the money stipulated for. Finished my transcribing. Dined with the Fieldings; no one but Lord Auckland. After dinner all went to the Duke of Devonshire's box to see the new farce, and came in for the last act of Werner, quite unexpected by me, as I did not even know of the intention to act it. The plaudits of the house most enthusiastic at the close, and continued and renewed for a long time.

16th. Breakfasted with Rogers and Lord John, who was just entering upon his duties of Paymaster-General, his chief cashier being appointed to come and receive orders from him after breakfast. A very agreeable morning. Down to the Longmans; arranged some money matters with them of very pressing interest to me on the approach of my Christmas bills. Found them ready and accommodating as usual. Called upon Lord Lansdowne, and sat some time with him. Said he would dine with Lord Essex to-morrow (not having sent his answer), if I would promise to go there too. Did so. Have been invited this week past to dine with Byng to-morrow, in order to celebrate Doherty's most unlucky appointment to the Chief Justiceship, but finding from Do-

herty that he should not be able to join us, considered myself free. Dined with Lord Essex; company, Sir G. Robinson, Hibbert, Luttrell, and one or two more. Luttrell full of spleen at the new arrangements and reforms, and evidently thinks his own place in danger. Says that Lord Althorp is like the manager of a theatre before a tumultuous audience, bowing and scraping, and asking what is their pleasure, sometimes applauded, but the next moment getting a shower of oranges about his ears. His opinion of the state of the country very much what my own is. We are now hastening to the brink with a rapidity which, croaker as I have always been, I certainly did not anticipate. Called before dinner at the Hollands, and saw Lord Holland. Talked of my "Life of Lord Edward," and said he thought it was worth my while to consider whether I should publish it just now, in the present ticklish state of Ireland, as I could not (he said) "do justice to Edward," without entering into the question of resistance, and this, as things were going on now all over the world, was rather a perilous topic. I owned that it was rather an unlucky moment for such a book, but that it was not of my choosing, as I had begun the work before any of this excitement had occurred, and it must now take its chance. I must only endeavour to keep the tone of the book as cool and moderate as the nature of its subject would admit of. As to waiting till Ireland was quiet, that would, indeed, be like Horace's Rusticus, waiting till the stream went by. He and Lady Holland are to leave for Brighton to-morrow.

17th. Breakfasted at the Athenæum. Went again to the Longmans to look out Bryan's library. Executed little commissions. Called upon Sir Robert Doyle, who mentioned his having supped with his relative, Doyle of Dublin, the night before he (his relative) fought Provost Hutchinson. They were a very gay party; and the host being dressed in a sort of loose coat, handsomely embroidered (his intention being to go from the supper table to the ground), some one remarked how smart he was. "To be sure," he answered, "it is but proper that I should dress for the Provost's ball." Called upon Mrs. Shelley. Went to take leave of Rogers, who sends by me to Bessy a large paper copy of his most beautiful book, "Italy," the getting up of which has

cost him five thousand pounds. Told me of a squabble he has had with the publisher of it, who, in trying to justify himself for some departure from his original agreement, complained rather imprudently of the large sum of ready money he had been obliged to lay out upon it. "As to that," said Rogers, "I shall remove that cause of complaint instantly. Bring me your account." The account was brought; something not much short of 1500l. "There," said Rogers, writing a cheque for the whole sum, "I shall leave you nothing more to say upon that ground." "Had I been a *poor* author (added Rogers, after telling me the circumstances), I should have been his slave for life." Dined at Lord Essex's; a most *lordly* party; "myself the sole small Mister of the day;" the remaining seven being Lords Essex, Lansdowne, Brougham, Melbourne, Albemarle, King, and Foley. * * * * Two of the cabinet ministers of our company came in hackney coaches, Brougham and Melbourne; the latter offered to take me home in his *fiacre*, but I had already agreed to go with Lord Foley; and was not much better off, as his was an old crazy job. Set me down at Brookes's. Brougham mentioned to-day that on the Princess of Wales' coming over to England, it was a matter of discussion among a party, where Lady Charlotte Lindsay was, what *one* word of English her Royal Highness (who was totally ignorant of the language) should be first taught to speak. The whole company agreed that "yes" was the most useful word, except Lady Charlotte, who suggested that "no" was twice as useful, as it so often stood for "yes." This story, Brougham said he once made use of in Court, in commenting on the manner in which a witness had said "no." What suggested it to him now was my describing the manner in which Grattan said, "Why no," one day when Rogers asked him whether he and I could manage another bottle of claret.

18th. Started for home a quarter before nine. Found all well.

19th to 29th. At work. Dined at Bowood soon after my return, to meet Mrs. and Miss Dugald Stewart, and slept there. On the 29th dined at Hughes's, at Devizes: — a man of learning, but odd and tiresome; at least, in the long run. Nothing strains and wearies attention so much as an artificial man; and the

more he knows, the more his power of boring is multiplied.

30th to 31st. Here ends the year 1830, and here most gladly do I take leave of this melancholy book*, which I have never opened without a fear of lighting upon those pages of it that record the event to me the most saddening of my whole life; the only event that I can look back upon as a real irreparable misfortune; the loss of my sweet Anastasia.

1831

JANUARY 1st and 2nd. At home and at work.

3rd. Dined at Bowood. Had dined there, by the bye, about a week before to meet Mrs. and Miss Dugald Stewart, Lord Lansdowne at that time not come down. Company, Lord Duncan and son, and Miss Fox. Lord D. after dinner complained to me of the state of the Scotch representation, and gave me a much clearer idea of its abuses than I had before conceived. To show the value of votes, he told me that he himself had a year or two since got for a property which did not bring him in much above 150*l.* a year, 15,000*l.* of money, all for the votes that formed a part of it. * * *

4th. Returned home. The dear boys all agog about the party at Bowood to-night. The Lansdownes' carriage came between eight and nine. But few house visitors there. A very agreeable evening, and all home safe again between three and four. Agreed to go to the Houltons on the 13th.

13th. Houlton's carriage came to take us to Farley.

15th. Took my solitary walks. Tried over Italian duets with Eliza Houlton. A Mr. Mead and his wife at dinner. Singing in the evening, the whole family being (what Jackson of Exeter called the Linleys) a "nest of nightingales." A chaunt composed by Eliza and sung with her by her sister Catherine (a new beauty springing up) most touchingly. The *Madre Amata* and *Padre Amato* of Winter performed with much success by Isabella, Eliza, and myself.

16th. Started for home about twelve,

Houlton's carriage taking us back. Delighted with our visit.

17th. A letter from the Duke of Leinster on the subject of my "Life of Lord Edward:" written, as he says, at the request of Lady Campbell, to beg I would postpone the publication, and adding that he agrees with her as to the expediency of doing so. Lord Lansdowne, just returned from town. Called and sat some time with me. A good deal of talk about politics. Agreed to be at Bowood to-morrow night and stay over next day.

18th. To-morrow being the close of our dear Tom's holidays, we all passed the day at Buckhill, for the convenience of his starting from thence in the morning. At nine at night Left Buckhill for Bowood, where I found Lord and Lady L. at tea. And sat talking with him till twelve.

19th. Walked home after breakfast, and worked for some hours; then returned to Bowood, where I dined and slept. Only themselves. Answered the Duke of Leinster, saying that I felt myself committed to the publication, nor could I agree with Lady Campbell or his Grace in their views of its postponement, adding, that those persons who had given me the materials and had therefore, perhaps, the best right to interfere with my task, had by no means done so, but left me to pursue my own discretion and views in it.

20th. Lord L. walked part of the way home with me. Asked me (first time this long while) how I was getting on with Lord Edward: a ticklish subject now between us, as, of course, anything likely to affect the present state of Ireland is, from his ministerial responsibility, of double interest and importance to him. If anything, indeed, could make me sacrifice my own views (and in some respects, I think) *character* on the point, it would be the gentle and considerate delicacy with which he has refrained, not only from urging, but even from hinting, what I know must be his anxious wishes on the subject. Discussed together all sorts of things; how long the Ministry would be likely to stay in; what class of politicians would most probably succeed them; what extent of reform would satisfy the people, &c. &c. Reminded him of what I had predicted to him when he was last in office, that we should thenceforth see a quick succession of ministers, as was the case in France before the Revolu-

* Meaning the MS. volume in which this year was recorded.—Ed.

tion; calling in fresh doctors as the patient grow worse and more restless, seeking a new change of position, &c. We both agreed that the next change would be in the Radical direction, and that the day of the Ultra-Tories was gone. Found to-day a curious instance of floridness in Jeremy Taylor: * "Celibate, like a fly in the heart of an apple, dwells in perpetual sweetness, but sits alone." * * *

21st and 22nd. Lord Lansdowne starts for town at five to-morrow morning, in order to be present at a council at three.

23rd to 25th. On the 25th, went into Devizes (Bessy in her jaunting car) to dine at Salmon's, for the ball. Took dear Russell back to school. Company, Mrs. Napier and Fanny, the Fishers, Miss Tugwell, &c. &c. Ball rather amusing; Sally Locke would make me dance with her. Slept at Salmon's: agreed to stay over to-morrow.

26th. Walked home after breakfast. Found a letter from William Romilly (Sir Samuel's son) on the subject of the passage relative to his father in the second volume of "Byron." Lord L. had already mentioned to me that he had heard people regret those passages being retained. Answered Romilly, and returned to Devizes. Company at dinner, the Scotts. Slept there.

27th. Saw dear Russell before we left Devizes. Home. Some very gratifying letters about the second volume of "Byron," from strangers as well as friends; one particularly from a Mr. Brackenbury, a clergyman, full of the warmest praise, which is the more welcome as he tells me he once published something against me.

28th. A reply from Romilly, thanking me in very cordial terms for my "ready and gentlemanlike" answer to his application.

29th. Received the "Quarterly Review," with the article of my second volume of "Byron." From Murray's interest in the work and Lockhart's previously expressed admiration of it, I did not much expect (though never of course sure of such critics) any thing like hostility. He has, however, not gone to much expense of praise. In acknowledging the receipt of it to Murray, I have said something to this effect: "It is evidently well

meant towards all the three parties concerned—the parson, the undertaker, and the body; and the reviewer, whoever he may be, is as generous towards myself as his nature would admit of. In short, I feel about it as Dogberry did about another sort of favour, *i.e.*, 'Give God thanks, and make *no* boast of it.'"

30th. Walked out to Bowood, wishing to see Lady L. before her departure, and also to consult a Spanish dictionary for the purpose of correcting a letter in that language of Lord Edward's. Had a long conversation with her, and came away (as I always do) more and more impressed with the excellent qualities of her mind and heart; even her very faults are but the *selvage* of fine and sound virtues. Called at Buckhill.

31st. At home, and at work.

February 1st and 2nd. Ditto.

3rd. An attack in the "Times" to my great surprise, upon the second volume of "Byron;" an attack, too, the most mischievous that could be made, as seizing upon what is certainly the least safe part of the volume, in this island of saints,—the account of Byron's Italian loves. Sat down and wrote a letter to Barnes, expostulating a little upon this perfidy; but when it was written, threw it in the fire.

8th. A letter from my sister Ellen, containing an alarming account of my dear mother's state of health, from an attack brought on by the late severe weather. My first impulse was to start immediately for Dublin; but as Crampton (who had been attending her) had not written, Bessy thought it better for me to wait; particularly as the effect the news had had upon me, in bringing on one of my convulsive fits of sobbing, had considerably weakened me.

9th. No letter, which we looked upon as favourable.

10th. A letter from Crampton, the commencement of which represented my mother as in a state which twenty-four hours must decide one way or other, for life or for death. The postscript, however, written the following day, announced that she had then rallied, and was in "a fair way of recovery." This, of course, tranquillised us considerably.

11th. A letter from Ellen, written on the night of the day on which Crampton had despatched his postscript, saying that in a few hours more our dear mother would have pass-

* Sermon on the Marriage Ring, part 1.—"Celibate, like the fly in the heart of an apple, dwells in a perpetual sweetness, but sits alone, and is confined and dies in singularity."

ed tranquilly from this life, and entreating me to come to her (Ellen) as soon as possible. Started at two o'clock, in a chaise, intending to get to Worcester that night; but on reaching Chippenham, determined to go by Bath. At Bath took the Bristol mail to Birmingham, and travelled all night. Nothing could be sweeter or more soothing than the sympathy of my dear Bessy on this occasion.

12th. Arrived at Birmingham between six and seven; breakfasted, and took the coach for Shrewsbury at half-past eight. Dined and slept at Shrewsbury.

13th. Off in the coach for Holyhead at six. The day fine, and Wales in high beauty. In leaving Bangor, where we dined, were joined by a gentleman and his wife; proved to be Staunton, editor of the "Dublin Morning Register." Gave me the first intelligence, which he had himself just received, of the arrangement between O'Connell and the Government on the subject of the pending trials; seemed to think it very much of a *giving in* on the part of his brother agitators, and was evidently not a little pleased at it. Said they had been driving the machine too fast, and had come to a point where it was necessary for their own and the country's safety to pull up. * * * He had himself been obliged to come to Wales out of the way of the law, and was now returning, as he told me, to avail himself of the amnesty he seemed to anticipate for all agitators. On our arrival at Holyhead, being anxious, in my present state of mind, to get rid of all companionship, did not enter the inn, but called at Stevens's (whom I found recovering from a bad illness); and finding that his packet sailed that night, begged him to arrange so that I could get on board before the other passengers. This he did very good naturedly, and after having had some tea with him, I accompanied his steward (himself not being able to go to-night) on board the packet, where I betook myself instantly to my berth. Could not help feeling a faint hope (from there having been evidently nothing in the late Irish newspapers about my dear mother) that I should find all better on my arrival than I expected. And yet, to come in for the last painful scene would be more than I could well bear; the suspense, altogether, dreadful.

14th. A seven hours' passage, during which

I dozed a good deal. Waited till the other passengers were off in the mail, and then had a chaise to Dublin. Went to Bilton's, and despatched a note to Ellen, bidding her let me have a line by the bearer to say if the worst was over, and at what time: telling her, at the same time, that my mind was fully made up and composed on the subject. There is no telling what was my astonishment and delight, when I received her answer to the following effect:—"Can you ever forgive me for having made you take this long journey? Our dearest mother has rallied most wonderfully, and will see you as soon as you come. You need have no dread of any thing to shock you; you will see nothing but extreme weakness." Hurried off to Abbey Street, and found my darling mother far better than I could have had the slightest anticipation of. Her cheerfulness and power of mind, too, wonderful. When Crampton came to see her yesterday, she raised herself up smiling in the bed, and said, "Well, 'Richard is himself again;'" on which Crampton said, in a jocular way, "Ah, Mother Hubbard, I shall make a book about you;" and then both patient and doctor fell to laughing at each other. Twice has she, within these ten days (as Crampton expresses it), "*fought off* death;" and on Wednesday last, under the certainty that she had but a few hours to live, she had calmly and minutely given directions to Ellen with respect to all that was to be done about the funeral, &c. &c. Her delight at seeing me was evidently very great, though she expressed strong anxiety and regret at the trouble and expense I had had in coming. Told me that she wished to give me before I left her the medal she had had struck off, with the date of my birth, as also my school and college medals. The animation and exsursiveness of her mind on all subjects quite as great as ever. Went to call upon Crampton, who, I found, had written to me by Thursday's post, advising me not to come, as it was now not necessary. Saw my mother again before dinner. Company at Millikin's, William Curran and Cuthbert Eccles. Story of Neilson (the famous United Irishman) meeting Reynolds, at the time he suspected him of having betrayed them, and hurrying him along to some retired place; then presenting a pistol at him, and saying, "What does that man deserve who could betray such a cause

as ours?" "To be shot through the head," answered Reynolds, so coolly as to disarm all Neilson's suspicions, and to make him apologise for having even harboured them. This story evidently but another version of what Mrs. Meara has communicated to me, and shows (if anything was wanting to show) the difficulty of arriving at facts through the various imaginations that have tried their skill on them. Story of the two United Irishmen going on some secret mission of great importance, and being pursued by soldiers, and blockaded in a small house to which they had fled for refuge. Their desperate defence, being well armed, till at length one of them received a wound which he felt to be mortal. He then said to his companion, "It is all over with me, but you may yet escape. I shall run out among the soldiers, as if trying to make my escape; and while their attention is engaged in putting me to death, you can be off by the back of the house." He accordingly did so, and his comrade escaped, and succeeded in achieving the object of their mission. Sung in the evening.

15th. Passed a great part of the morning with my mother, and Kate, and Ellen. Some conversation with old Peter Burrowes. Agreed with me in opinion that O'Connell had done more harm to the cause of Liberty in Ireland than its real friends could repair within the next half century; and mentioned what Grattan had said of him, that "He was a bad subject, and a worse rebel." This is admirable; true to the life, and in Grattan's happiest manner. The lurking appreciation of a *good* rebel which it implies is full of humour. Dined with Crampton: no one but Curran. Told me he had a manuscript of his father's, treating of Irish affairs, which he had had some idea of using when he wrote his Life, but did not; that it was much at my service if it could be of any use to me. When O'Connell, in his last speech, on Sunday, said, "I am open to conviction," some one in the crowd said, "And to *judgment*, I hope," (in allusion to the trials he has slipped himself out of). Curran asked me whether I had yet left my name with Lord Anglesey, and advised me to do so, as the omission of it would be considered politically meant.

16th. Sat some time with my mother, who appears to me even better than when I came.

Spoke to me of my letters to her, and her wish that I should seal them up myself, and write upon them that they were to be the property of Ellen after her death. "They belong to *you*, my dear Tom," she said, "but this wish of mine I know you will not have any objection to." I told her she had already known this, and that all I should want with these letters would be to look over them, some time or other, for the purpose of ascertaining such dates and facts as might assist me in a memoir of my own life, which I look to leaving behind me as a legacy. In the course of our conversation, she said, "Well, my dear Tom, I can say, with my dying breath, that you have from the first to the last done your duty, and far more, indeed, than your duty, by me and all connected with you. At least *I* can say so from my heart." Went to Millikin's, and had some conversation with Curran and Peter Burrowes about young Emmett, and the part Plunket took on his trial. Burrowes seemed to be decidedly of opinion that Plunket could not have refused the brief of Government, though he might have avoided, perhaps, speaking to evidence; almost immediately after, too, Plunket came into place. It was not true (I think he said) that Plunket had been acquainted with young Emmett. The passage in the printed speech of Emmett, where he is made to call Plunket "that viper, &c.," was never spoken by Emmett, and the secret of its finding a place there was owing, Curran said, to the following circumstance. The person who took down the speech at the trial was, I think, McNally, the son of the barrister, and he had afterwards some conversation with Emmett in the prison. It was during that conversation that Emmett, in speaking of Plunket, used those expressions, which McNally introduced subsequently in the speech. Peter Burrowes spoke of the wonderful strength and resolution of Emmett in standing so long (twelve hours, I think), through all the fatigue and anxiety of the trial, and then delivering that noble speech with such energy before the pronouncing of sentence. Left my name at the Castle for Lord Anglesey. Dined with the Morgans: had expected they would have Lord Cloncurry to meet me, but there was none but themselves at dinner, and a large party forthcoming in the evening. The party a very pretty one; a good many beauties; and some of Rossini's

things sung very well by the Clarkes, assisted by the two Hermans. I sung also, and with no ordinary success. Among the pretty women were a Mrs. White and a Mrs. Hobson. A party of diners from the Castle, consisting of some of the young Lord Pagets, the Chief Justice Doherty, &c. &c. Doherty the bearer of a message for me from Lord Anglesey, to say how sorry he was that I had not made one of the party.

17th. Have been preparing my dear mother for my leaving her, now that I see her so much better. She is quite reconciled to my going, and said this morning, "Now, my dear Tom, don't let yourself be again alarmed about me in this manner, nor hurried away from your home and business." She then said she must, before I left her this morning, give me her wedding-ring as her last gift; and accordingly sending for the little trinket-box in which she kept it, she herself put the ring on my finger. Have written to Skinner, who sails on Saturday (the day after to-morrow), to tell him I shall sail with him. Met Lord Forbes, who asked me anxiously whether I had yet seen Lord Anglesey, and said I must certainly come and dine at the Castle before I went. Received a card from the Lord Chancellor (Plunket) for dinner on Monday, but shall not stay for it. Dined quietly in Abbey Street with dear Nell on some salt fish and biscuits; expected that Kate would join us, but she didn't. Sat and talked with my mother in the evening. Found a card at my hotel from Lord Anglesey for Sunday, with a note from Lord Forbes, saying that Lord A. sent me a card for Sunday, but wished particularly I should dine with him on Tuesday, when he would have a pleasant party to meet me. Very sorry it so happens, but I cannot stay beyond Saturday.

18th. Wrote my excuses to Forbes instead of to the aide-de-camp in waiting, and soon after received a card of invitation for *to-day*. Made sundry arrangements for my departure to-morrow, devoting as much time to my dearest mother besides as I could manage. Ought to have mentioned that I breakfasted with old Ogilvie, who, luckily for me, was at the moment in Dublin, having come up with an address to Lord Anglesey. A good deal of conversation about Lord Edward; made him repeat much of what he had before told me.

* * * Said he had recollected a batch of

papers in London which he thought might be useful to me, and if I was going to town myself he would intrust the key of the *escritoire*, where they were, to me. Answered that I would most willingly take London in my way home for that purpose. Called to pay a visit to the priest (Mr. O'Connell) who comes occasionally to pray with my mother; a well-mannered and intelligent man, whom I found lodged in a very handsome apartment of the house attached to the chapel in Dominick Street, and his room ornamented with several small casts from the statues of Michael Angelo, &c., which he had lately brought with him from Italy. Called upon Mr. —, the editor of the "*Freeman's Journal*," whom I had never before seen, but whom I wished to thank for his civilities to my mother. Talked of the Repeal question, he being one of the most furious of the repealers. Told him frankly, and at some length, my opinion of the injury that has been done to the cause of *Irish liberty* by this premature and most ill-managed effort of O'Connell's. Time, and the spirit rising in England, as well as over all Europe, is fast ripening that general feeling of independence of which Ireland, at her own time, may take advantage. The same principle is also in full progress towards removing, without any effort of hers, some of the worst grievances that weigh her down. The Church, for instance, which would be just now fought for, against any such attack as O'Connell's, with the whole Protestant force of the empire, would, if left to the natural operation of the revolution principle, be put aside, in due time, without any difficulty; England herself leading the way by getting rid of, or at least lowering, her own establishment. This was the great struggle for which the energies of Ireland ought to have been reserved. In assailing the enormous abuses of the Irish establishment, Catholics would have been joined by dissenters, and in the pursuit of this common object that amalgamation would have taken place between them, that *nationalised* feeling, without which (as O'Connell's failure has shown) it is in vain for Ireland to *think* of making head against England. In another way, too, they had done injury by exposing the poverty of their cause in the way of talent and intellect; this ferment not having been able to throw up a single man of ability. * * * All this (coming from one who,

he could not doubt, felt strongly, and even *greenly*, about Ireland) seemed to astonish Mr. — exceedingly. To the Castle at seven; the party (little more than Lord A.'s own family and household) consisting of old Colonel Armstrong, Skinner, a Mr. St. George, who had been the bearer of an address to Lord A., and myself; those of the family being, the three young Pagets, Lord Forbes, Baron Tuyll, and Captain Williams. Lord Anglesey leaned upon me in to dinner, and placed me next him. Abundance of conversation between us about the state of Ireland, O'Connell, the durability of the present ministry, &c. &c., and nothing could be more frank and communicative than he was on all these subjects. Told me not a bad anecdote of Lord Cloncurry, who, in coming to town the other day was upset in the snow, and some fellows on the road lending their assistance, he was quickly set right again, on which he said to them, "Thank you, my lads. Now I shall treat you as O'Connell does." "Oh long life to your honour for that," they exclaimed, with great joy, but were rather taken aback when Lord Cloncurry, holding out his empty hand to them said, "I'll trouble each of you for half a crown. O'Connell takes more from you; but, as you have been such good fellows, I'll only ask half a crown." The fellows felt the fun of this, and, of course, got something else into the bargain. In talking of the Repeal question, I told him of my scene in the morning with the editor of the "*Freeman*," and repeated the substance of most of what I had said to him. Saw plainly that he was very nervous about the state of Ireland. * * * Asked his permission to leave him early, on account of my mother, and got to her about ten o'clock. Staid till eleven, and then home to my hotel to pack.

19th. Off in the mail to Howth at seven; Skinner with me. Our passage to Holyhead under six hours. Called upon Mrs. Stevens, at Holyhead. Dined with Skinner, who had a party of three or four to meet me, and a good hospitable dinner, which I enjoyed exceedingly after my qualms. Slept at Spencer's; a very comfortable bed.

20th. Off at six for Shrewsbury. Weather delicious, and the road and scenery in the fullest perfection. Stopped at the same inn as in coming; had the inside to myself most of the way, and read "*Jefferson's Memoirs and Cor-*

respondence." Left Shrewsbury in the coach for Birmingham; joined by a lady within thirty miles of Birmingham, who amused me a good deal with a history of all her family concerns. Dined at Birmingham. Started in the mail for town at six. One of my companions, in the intervals of dozing, gave me some curious particulars respecting that class of persons called Commercial Travellers; the rate of their expenses, the sort of club they form themselves into when they meet at an inn, appointing president and vice, and every man being expected to order his pint of wine, whether he drinks it or not. A wretched night; cold and sleety outside, and close and smothering within. Got to Bury Street about seven in the morning, not at all well.

22nd. Called at Murray's. Mentioned to him Lady Morgan's wish to contribute something to his "*Family Library*," and that she has materials ready for lives of five or six Dutch painters, which she thinks would suit his purpose. The great John said, without minding the painters, "Pray, isn't Lady Morgan a very good cook?" I answered, I did not know; but why did he ask. "Because," said he, "if she would do something in that line." "Why, you don't mean," exclaimed I, "that she should write a cookery book for you!" "No," answered John, coolly, "not so much as that; but that she should re-edite *mine*" (Mrs. Rundall's, by which he has made mints of money). Oh, that she could have heard this with her own ears! Here ended my negotiation for her Ladyship. Dined at Longman's; Dr. Lardner and M'Culloch the company. Forgot to mention that Mr. Rennie called upon me this morning with the papers, which turn out, however, to be all on the subject of the attainder, and not very interesting. Wrote to dear Tom to ask leave of Dr. Russell to come to me for a few hours to-morrow.

24th. Breakfasted with Rogers. He had told Lord John I was to be with him, and soon after he had breakfasted he came. "I was wishing, he said," in his quiet way, "to have you come to my house (his official house); but then I have no beds up, and they tell me I am such a bird of passage there, that I don't know what to do about it. However, if I am still *in* when you are next in town, you *must* come to me." Had a good deal of con-

versation. Called, in the course of the day, on the Hollands; saw both my Lord and my Lady; Lord H. very ill; hardly spoke a word while I was there. * * *

25th. Started at eight o'clock for Sloperton. Right glad to get back again.

26th, 27th, &c. From this time till the latter end of April, I remained quietly at home, working at my "Life of Lord Edward," and occasionally doing some musical things for Power. My only excursions from home were to the Fieldings, Methuens, and Starkeys, among whom I dined out about six times. On the 19th of March Bessy was to have accompanied me to dine at Fielding's, and walked over dressed and ready to the Prowses (our curate's), the carriage being appointed to come and take us to Lacock at four; but I had a note from her to say that she found Prowse himself (who has for some time been ill) in such a dangerous state, and his family in such distress and consternation, that she could not leave them, and that I must therefore go to Lacock alone. Slept at Lacock; Methuen of the party. Talking of the "Morning Chronicle" squibs, since published under the name of "The Tory Guide," Methuen told us he was the author of almost all those about the Rat Club, which are certainly some of the best. On my return from Lacock next day, found that Bessy had been up almost all night at Prowse's. On the morning of the 21st she was summoned over there at six in the morning, Prowse having died in the night; and for several days afterwards devoted herself to arranging all that was necessary for the family on this sad occasion. On the 26th Prowse was buried, and I attended his funeral. On the 28th Bessy went with me to dine at Lacock, and was much delighted with her visit, from which we returned home next day. Lady E. whispered me, on our arrival, "I take for granted there is nobody dying in your neighbourhood, or we shouldn't have had Mrs. Moore's company to-day." It is true that she is never half so happy as when helping those who want assistance, or comforting those who are afflicted. My "Lord Edward" has lingered on hand (like everything else I do) much longer than I anticipated. This is all owing to the slowness of my execution. I see rapidly how the thing ought to be, and will be, but to *make* it so is the difficulty. Find-

ing myself in some difficulties relating to parts where Arthur O'Connor was concerned, I ventured to write to him to Paris, and am very glad I did so, as he has set me right about two or three points on which I should have gone astray. In my musical department two piracies have been committed on me which rather flatter my vanity as a composer. In a set of Greek dances, my "Romaica" (an air in the "Evenings in Greece") has been announced as the real and original "Romaica," and the "Harmonicon" has published, as a great treasure, from a copy brought from Sweden, an air of mine in the "National Melodies," "My harp has one unchanging theme," which I have given in that work, as Swedish. Have been, as usual, all this time overwhelmed with letters and MSS. Several letters on the subject of my second volume of "Byron," have given me sincere pleasure; some of them from America, and of these, one was accompanied by a very elegant volume (both *within* and *without*), the authoress naming herself Ianthe, and speaking of me and my works in a way that could not but be very gratifying to me. On the 25th of March, in passing through the churchyard of Bromham alone, I for the first time ventured to approach the tomb of my poor Anastasia, and take a hasty glimpse of her name on the marble. What I feel, whenever I think of her, need not be mentioned here.

April 21st. Started from home with Bessy and Russell, in order to leave the latter at school at Marlborough. Saw the dear boy comfortably installed, and then Bessy returned to Sloperton, and I remained to proceed by coach, next morning, to London.

22nd. Started in the Marlborough coach at eight; my darling Russell was, with his schoolmaster's sister, at the open window as I passed, looking very rosy and happy, and kissing hands to me most actively. It was *very* nice of them to have him there for me. Took up a young fellow as passenger on the road, with whom I had a good deal of conversation; had travelled in France and Germany, knew a great deal of the current literature, and (most inconveniently for me) was full of Byron and Moore. "Have you seen, Sir, (he asked) the second volume of Moore's 'Byron?'" "No," I answered, "not yet." "Nor I either," he replied; "but I am most anxious to get it." "It is such an

expensive book," said I, "that I mean to wait for the octavo edition, which I hear is preparing." I then changed the subject, but he often returned to it. In talking of Sir Hudson Lowe, and the sort of mark that mankind concur in fixing upon him, he said, "I *do* think I had rather die at once than have such verses written upon me as those of Moore's on Sir H. Lowe." Before we parted, I thought it fair to tell him who I was, and I never saw a man so full of surprise and joy. We had an old woman in the coach (the very image of Lady Cork) who was a great follower of preachers and prophets, but a remarkably clear-headed old lady, and evidently full of energy and character. She and I entered into a long discussion upon religion, and it was amusing to see how, by the force of a little logic (going on very gravely all the time), I brought her to agree with me on all the points most adverse to her own creed. The young man was much amused throughout, and when he knew who I was, said it was a circumstance he would remember to the last day of his life. Immediately on arriving at my lodgings, heard of the dissolution that had just taken place, and the surprise and bustle of the King going down in person to declare it. Went to Brookes's. Found them in the highest state of excitement; heard all the particulars of the last stormy moments of this parliament. Peel's violent speeches interrupted by the *coups de canon* announcing the King's coming; every shot received with loud cheers by one side, and yells and groans by the other. The Lords still more tumultuous; Lord Mansfield brandishing his fist at his opponents. Their hustling Lord Shaftesbury into the chair, and hooting after Brougham. Found Shiel at the Athenæum, who sat with me while I dined. Talked (*I did*) of the great success of his speech in the House; and he repeated, what he had more than once said to me, namely, that my views (in my "Life of Sheridan") of the distaste which I suppose to have arisen for the higher order of eloquence, were, he thought, quite mistaken; that rhetorical flights are certainly rare, but that when they *do* come, and are well done, the House receives them not only favourably, but warmly. Gave, as instances,—the manner in which they took the very happy illustration of "Old lamps for new ones," in a passage merely read by Peel from a

former speech of Lord John Russell's; Peel's own allusion, in speaking of the ministry, to that fancy of the Indians, that a new tenant of a wigwam succeeded to all the qualities and virtues of its former inhabitant; and lastly, the great success of Mr. Hawkins's noble speech some nights since. It appears, however, that Lord John's "Old lamps for new ones" had no effect whatever at the time he spoke it, and Peel's figure was borrowed from Lord Erskine, whom I myself heard make use of it at a public dinner (a Dublin University dinner in London); and, by the bye, Peel himself (then Irish Secretary) was one of the diners that very day.

23rd. Made calls. Dined with Miss Rogers and her nieces, and home early to bed. Luttrell at Brookes's this morning; very amusing. Forgot one lively thing he said, which was provoking, and remember another not half so good: "In one Latin word (he remarked) is comprised the history of the two parties at present, 'Reform-I-do,' says the Whig; '*Reform-ido*,' says the Tory."

24th. Called upon Lady Cork in the morning, who snubbed me for using the word "niece," and said that Dr. Johnson would never let *her* use it. Dined at Rogers's, though fitter for my sofa at home. Company: Newton, Leslie, Turner, and one or two more. Walked with O'Connell, by the bye, for some time, this morning, and was glad to have an opportunity of repeating to himself all I had been saying to some of his followers lately, in Dublin, respecting his management of the Repeal question. I had, indeed, felt uncomfortable at the thought of attacking him to others without putting also *himself* in full possession of my sentiments; and I must say that he bore all I said with the most perfect candour and good-humour, though I went so far in describing what I thought the mischief of his premature agitation as to say, that its obvious effect was to *divide* the upper classes, and *madden* the lower. In short, I put everything that occurred to me quite as strongly as I had done before in Dublin to his friend Mr. —, and he was just entering on his defence when some one interrupted us and took him away. Had some talk about '98, and Lord Edward. Showed wonderful ignorance of the events of that time, confounded Neilson (the vapouring fellow who attacked Newgate on the 23rd May, 1798) with

the gallant Russell, the friend of Tone, who rose with Emmett in 1803; and on one or two other points showed how little even the actors in such scenes (if he was really one of the actors) are to be trusted in their recollections.

25th. Dined at Sir George Philipps's, though still feeling ill and uncomfortable. Company, the Lord Advocate (Jeffrey) and Mrs. Jeffrey, John Murray (of Edinburgh), Sharpe, Lady Anne Wilbraham, &c. But for the temptation of meeting Jeffrey, I should not have encountered so large a party. Jeffrey by no means in good spirits, nor looking as he ought. Talked of the spirit with which the Irish members now did their duty on the side of liberty, though for some time after the Union they were mostly tools of the Ministry, as Grattan prophesied they would be, saying, "Well, my much injured country will have her revenge for all her wrongs; she will send into England and into the bosom of her parliament, and the very heart of her constitution, a hundred of the greatest rascals that can be found anywhere." It was mentioned that Tierney, when at the bar, told Perceval one day that he meant to buy stock, and go and make speeches at the India House, on which Perceval advised him not to do so, saying that a lawyer who wished to succeed in his profession ought to confine himself to it entirely. In relating this circumstance Tierney used to say, that if they had both attended to this advice, he (Tierney) might have had a little more money in his pocket, and Perceval might have been still alive. Tierney, at first (and even at the time when he belonged to the Friends of the People), thought himself incapable of public speaking, and never ventured to speak but for a few minutes at a time.

26th. Called at the Longmans': had been also at the printer's, and find that the matter of my "Life of Lord Edward" has (as happens generally with me) overflowed the bounds originally intended, and cannot well be compressed in one volume. Called at Lord John Russell's (had seen him but once since I came, and thought he looked ill and fagged): not at home; found that he was to set out for Devonshire next morning at ten. Went to pay a visit at the Speaker's; saw Mrs. Manners Sutton, who said to me, "I am told, your friends, the Whigs, have resolved, from an idea that the Speaker has acted partially, not

only to endeavour to throw him out at Scarborough, but to prevent his re-election as Speaker, and to deprive him of his peerage. They had better take care. The most unpopular thing they ever did in their lives would be nothing to their attempting to prevent his re-election to the chair: and if we have but fair notice beforehand, we shall beat them by three times their number." She then (as if I was the most tried Tory friend in the world) begged me to give her prompt notice if I saw any such intentions on their part. Went to Brookes's.

27th. Feeling still the pain over my right eye, and not sleeping well at night, wrote a note to Dr. Holland to beg he would call upon me. Burdett called for me on his way to the city, but I could not, of course, go with him. Asked me to dine quietly with him, which I promised to do, if well enough. Holland came and prescribed. In talking of the Reform Bill, I said, I should not wonder if it added to his number of patients; and he assured me that such was seriously the case, more than one or two instances of illness brought on by anxiety and alarm for this subject having occurred in his practice. Refused, with much kindness, my offer of a fee, though I said he *ought* to take it, if for nothing but the rarity of the event, as he was the first physician I had consulted on my own account for God knows how many years. Went to dine with Burdett; none but themselves. A good deal of conversation with him after dinner; and the fluency with which, in talking of the Reform question, he went through the history of the representative system from its earliest periods, was curious enough. * * * To-night being the general illumination for the dissolution of Parliament, some of the Miss Burdetts expressed a wish during dinner to drive through the streets and see it, and the carriage was ordered accordingly; but it occurred to us afterwards that Burdett might possibly be recognised by the mob, and some demonstration, such as taking the horses off, or something might happen which would neither be agreeable nor prudent; so we gave up the plan, and the Burdetts' carriage took me home.

28th. A letter from Bessy to say she thinks of coming up to-morrow or Monday, in consequence of which I deferred my own intentions of going down. Dined with Rogers: com-

pany, only Sharpe, Miss Rogers, and Mrs. Lockhart. Mrs. L. gave a better account of Sir Walter, who has had a bad attack lately. Lockhart told me, a day or two since, that it was not apoplexy, but an affection of the stomach, which produced effects very much the same in appearance, by sending up blood to the head. Mackintosh, he said, had suffered from a similar complaint. Mrs. Lockhart said, that worry and alarm at this new measure of reform had a great deal to do with it, and that just before this late attack some person had written him a letter from London containing an account of the dissolution, and the scenes in the two houses in consequence, which threw him into a state of great nervousness and agitation. A curious conversation after dinner from my saying that, "after all, it was in high life one met the best society;" Rogers violently opposing me; he, too, of all men, who (as I took care to tell him) had through the greater part of his life shown practically that he agreed with me, by confining himself almost exclusively to this class of society. It is, indeed, the power which these great people have of commanding, among their other luxuries, the presence of such men as he is at their tables, that sets their circle (taking all its advantages into account) indisputably above all others in the way of *society*. — said, with some bitterness, that, on the contrary, the high class were the vilest people one met. Vulgar enough, God knows! some of them are; vulgar in *mind*, which is the worst sort of vulgarity. But, to say nothing of women, *where*, in any rank or station of life, could one find *men* better worth living with, whether for manners, information, or any other of the qualities that render society agreeable, than such persons as Lords Holland, Grey, Carlisle, Lansdowne, Cowper, King, Melbourne, Carnarvon, John Russell, Dudley, Normanby, Morpet, Mahon, and numbers of others that I can speak of from personal knowledge?

29th. While at breakfast received a note from Rogers to remind me that I had promised to breakfast with him. Went, and found Miss Edgeworth, Luttrell, Lord Normanby (now Mulgrave), and Sharpe. Miss Edgeworth, with all her cleverness, anything but agreeable. The moment any one begins to speak, off she starts too, seldom more than a sentence behind them, and in general contrives

to distance every speaker. Neither does what she say, though of course very sensible, at all make up for this over-activity of tongue. Dined at Lansdowne House: Lord Minto, Lord Fitzharris, Lord and Lady Roseberry, Lord Dudley, Lord Davy, the Abercrombys, &c. Sat next Lord Dudley, who gets odder and odder every day. His mutterings to himself; his fastidious contemplation of what he has on his plate, occasionally pushing about the meat with his finger, and uttering low breathed criticisms upon it,—all is on the verge of insanity; but still very brilliant and agreeable. In speaking of my second volume of *Byron*, he repeated what Murray had told me he said to him about it; that he had resolved not to read it all at once, but to keep it as a sort of cordial to his mind, to be taken now and then, when he was in low spirits, and wanted refreshment and excitement. One great source of the pleasure it gave him was, he said, his knowledge of all the persons and circumstances it referred to, which made him feel as if living over past times again. Lord Lansdowne very anxious that I should dine with him on Sunday to meet the Lord Chancellor, but have already pledged myself to Fielding to meet Luttrell. Home early.

30th. Dined at the Academy dinner at Somerset House; Lord Cawdor took me. One grand thing, full of poetry, of Turner's, "Baiae and the Bridge of Caligula." A touching story of a crazed girl, by West, which every one admired: old Stothard, every ten minutes, taking up some one to look at it. The poor artist himself, who has been long hopeless of any notice, was all this time (as W. Irving told me) moping at home, little thinking his picture would be so successful; but his friends, Irving and Newton, were determined not to let the night pass without letting him know his success. Was rather lucky in my place at dinner, having got next Jones. He and Howard talked of the abundance of subjects my "Epicurean" would furnish for the pencil; and Jones mentioned three or four he himself had intended to try his hand on, particularly the approach of the girl and her lover to the Night Fair on the Nile. Jones added, however, as the difficulty in taking any of my subjects, "You do too much yourself; you leave hardly anything to the artist." This is, I suppose, true; a more vague and sketchy

style would more easily *se prêter* to the fancy of the designer. A letter from Bessy to say she is coming to town on Monday; *à propos* of which, a very good-natured thing of Greville. When I was with him yesterday, and on my mentioning that Mrs. Moore was coming, he said, "If you have no better *gîte* for her, here is my house for the next week, as I am myself going to Newmarket; and she shall have it all to herself, and my carriage to make free use of into the bargain." Told him that the latter, at all events, would, I knew, be very welcome, and I would most thankfully accept of it for her.

May 1st. Began my week of Greville's carriage by taking it to pay a visit at Holland House. Called first at the Duke of Essex's (who, I found, however, is now to be visited in town), and at the Duchess of Kent's. Thence to Holland House; found Lord II. himself very much recovered, and in his usual good spirits. Lord Alvanley with him, but, after a little time, summoned to my lady. Lord H. showed me a ballad he had written and got printed, about the King: "King William the Tar for me!" and to which he had just added two verses. Asked me why I didn't do something for them? Told him I feared that what was at the bottom of *my* want of enthusiasm on the subject was this very circumstance of the *King* having so much to do with it. It was, in fact, the old king-ridden feeling by which the people of England had been so long and often led into what was *wrong*, that was now, by the mere accident of the present man's character, influencing them towards what was right; and though I rejoiced at the *result*, my conviction of the source from whence most of the enthusiasm sprung very much damped my sympathy with it. Lord H. owned that, as to what I said of the "king-led feelings" of the people of England, "there was some truth in it." My lady's page having then summoned me, I went to her room and found Alvanley with her, who mentioned two rather amusing things. One, of a foreign servant, who, on being asked what had been his qualifications for his last place, always began by saying, "*Je savais*," putting the fore-finger of his right hand to the thumb of the left, and then counting upon the fingers. "*ni lire, ni écrire, ni monter à cheval, ni raser, ni rien*." The other was in talking of Sweden. Alvanley

said he believed that there was no such thing as a Swedish grammar, and mentioned a man at Paris who, intending to pay a visit to that country, was anxious to learn the language, but could neither find a grammar nor any person capable of teaching it. At last he was waited upon by a man whom his inquiries had brought to light, and who undertook to instruct him, and being very assiduous he learned, as he thought, sufficient for his purpose, and set off with it to Sweden. On his arrival there, however, he found that not a creature could comprehend a single word he said, and it turned out that what his friend, the language-master, had, with so much expense of time and money, been teaching him, was *Bas-Breton*! Forgot to tell Lady Holland what I had, in coming up the avenue, fully resolved *not* to forget, namely, the following anecdote. Among other stories told to the honour and glory of the reforming monarch, it is very generally stated, that Maclean, the American ambassador, said to His Majesty, "I little thought, sir, I should live to see the day when I should *envy* a monarch." In paying a visit at Maclean's the other morning, I mentioned the currency of this anecdote; on which Mrs. Maclean (who is a very amiable, natural person) said, "It is very true that Mr. Maclean said he envied the King, but it was not on the Reform question; it was (I am ashamed to say) on seeing the King kiss Lady Lilford." Thus are stories made up. Luttrell has put his pun on the two parties into verse, as follows:

"To the same sounds our parties two
The sense by each applied owe;
The Whig exclaims 'Reform-I-do,'
The Tory 'Reformido.'"

5th. It being Bessy's wish to return home to-morrow, I went to take places, but found I could not get the inside of the coach I wanted till Saturday, so took them for that day. Drove about with her shopping. As she had fixed to pass the evening with her mother, I accepted an invitation at Lord Ducie's for to-day, having been asked also to Lord Listowel's and Agar Ellis's. Company at Lord Ducie's: the Duke of Norfolk, Lords Lansdowne, Albemarle, Suffield, Downes, Kerry, &c. Sat next Lord Suffield (who is an old friend of mine), and reminded him of a story he told me years ago, of his having been laid up with a strain, so as to be confined to his

chair and flannels, just on the eve of a race which he was to run for a great wager; his finding out that electricity had the power of restoring him the use of his limb for a short time; his having himself brought to the ground in his invalid chair; being there electrified; running and winning the race, and then returning to his lameness and flannels again. He seemed much amused at my remembering a story of such ancient date, and vouched for the whole truth of it.

6th. Having made up my mind to return with Bessy, arranged all matters with the printer and the Longmans. Forgot to mention (and now have not time to detail) a conversation which I had with two noble lords at Brookes's one of these mornings, on the subject of Reform, when I ventured to put strongly to them my view of the matter; the tendency, I thought, there has long been in England to a change,—a revolution, in fact; that we have been in the *stream* of a revolution for some years; and that the only question is, whether the present measure of reform will hasten or retard the stream. They listened patiently, and as if they agreed with me, confessing that our friends the Ministers *might* have satisfied the country by a far less dose of reform than the present. On my expressing my curiosity to know (what never, perhaps, will be thoroughly known) how such men as Lords Lansdowne, Holland, and Melbourne, to say nothing of Canningites, came to let themselves be hustled into such a measure, Lord — said, that whatever might have been the steps of the process, it was certain that Lord Durham was at the bottom of it all; that, from his influence with Lord Grey, he got it fully into *his* mind; and then Lord Grey's weight with his colleagues, not a little backed by his representing to them that it must be either this measure, or resignation, did all the rest. Lord Lansdowne, while at all times disposed to liberalise the *working* of our institutions, has invariably been for leaving their machinery as it is: and Lord Melbourne's view of Reform has always been that which, in politics as well as religion, most defies conversion; and that is, the scoffer's view. How they all come to be, on the surface, at least, radical Reformers (for it is nothing less), I cannot comprehend. For myself, I have always been for *improvement*, thinking that everything, in the

end, will be the better for it, though the process through which that *better* must be reached is, I own, rather trying; and, after all, it may but prove the truth of the French saying, that frequently "*Le mieux est l'ennemi du bien.*" Lord Lansdowne, at least, must know or guess what I now think of his Reform, from a letter I wrote him last March, before any one knew what plan was to be proposed.* He had, in writing to me, said that he had heard rumours of my being radical and anti-unionist; in reply to which, after some remarks on the latter charge, I said that, so far from being radical with respect to English affairs, it was my firm belief that the Reform which the country was at present forcing upon the ministry, would give but an opening and impulse to the revolutionary feeling now abroad; and though there might be a temporary satisfaction produced by it, it would be but like the calm described in those lines (borrowed by Campbell):

"— ad præceps immane ruinæ,
Lævior, en, facies fit properantis aquæ."†

7th. Left Hatchett's with Bessy, Tom, and the two Powers (who are going to pass some time with us) between seven and eight, in the Marlborough coach. Saw dearest Russell at Marlborough for some time, and from thence Bessy and the rest set off for Sloperston in a chaise, and I in one of the Bath coaches for Devizes, from whence I walked home.

* There must be some mistake here, as the plan was opened on the 1st of March.—Ed.

† The lines of Campbell are,

"But mortal pleasure, what in sooth art thou?"

The torrent's smoothness ere it dash below."

It is not perhaps surprising that in this and other passages Moore should express some fear of the consequences of the Reform Act; but those who drew it felt no such apprehensions. They knew the strong veneration which the people of England feel for Monarchy and its attendant institutions. Had the nation not been imbued with such feelings, the mock elections of the nomination boroughs would have been a spur and not a curb to their speed; as it is, a reformed Parliament is a far stronger barrier against wild innovation than the Parliaments chosen on the old model could have been. Lord Melbourne, in his speech in the House of Lords, truly said that the consent of the people formed the strength of the Parliament, and that when that consent was wanting it was time to change the form of the governing body. On such principles, those of Lord Grey's cabinet who had been against reform acted in unison with these who had been long its advocates. Lord Grey and his colleagues, in thus combining to bring in the Reform Bill, acted with true patriotism and true foresight. They knew the institutions which they amended; the people with whom and for whom they acted; the principles of sound policy, and the course required by honesty and wisdom.—Ed.

8th to 31st. For the rest of the month busy at home, on my second volume of "Lord Edward," dining out but once the whole time, which was at Mr. Hughes's, at Devizes. Forget whether I have, in any part of my journal, mentioned the course of my money transactions with Murray. At the time when he allowed me to avail myself of whatever I could get from France and America, for an early copy of "Byron's Life," to be published there, the sum agreed to by the American publisher was 333*l.*; and as an accommodation towards enabling me to pay some of the bills for the rebuilding of my cottage, Murray allowed me to draw upon him for 500*l.*, which, it was understood, I should repay him when the arrival of this money from America would so far give me the means. From the delay of the work, the money, of course, did not come; and after renewing my bill upon him once, my bankers at Devizes were unwilling to renew it a second time; and I had nothing for it but to offer that he should draw upon me.

June 1st. Started with Tom in the coach for town. Discovered, in one of my travelling companions, an old masquerader of other days, Sir Thomas Champneys, and found him very amusing. Tom particularly delighted with his stories. Brummel saying to some grave minister of state who was explaining to him the operation of the income tax, at the time it was about to be brought forward, "Then I see I must retrench in the rosewater for my bath." Old Judge — saying to Lady Hippisley, who was sitting near him on the bench, in a riding habit and hat, "Why doesn't that man take off his hat?" The people round whispered to him that it was Lady Hippisley; his not hearing them. "I say, make that man take off his hat," &c. &c. Champneys acting all this very amusing. Deposited Tom at Power's, and went to dine at the Athenæum; joined by James Smith. Mentioned a sermon of Swift's on sleeping in church, which I must see. Repeated to me some verses of his in imitation of Crabbe, which, for neatness of execution in the *four last lines*, are admirable:—

"Hard is his lot who edits, thankless job!
A Sunday journal for the factious mob.
With bitter paragraph and caustic jest,
He gives to turbulence the day of rest,
Condemn'd this week, rash rancour to instil,
Or thrown aside, the next, for one who will
Alike undone, or if he praise or rail,
(For this affects his safety, that his sale);

He sinks, alas! in luckless limbo set,—
If loud for libel, and if dumb for debt."

Told me that he and his brother had got 1000*l.* for the "Rejected Addresses," and copyright of "Horace in London;" he himself, also, got 300 guineas from Mathews for the "Trip to Paris," and pretty nearly the same sum for the other things of this kind he wrote for him. Took up my abode in Bury Street, where they have put me in front rooms.

2nd. Found the noise of the street intolerable. Have left a good deal of my "Lord Edward" still to be done, and fear I shall encounter sad interruptions: to add to the tranquillity of my study, I have my host's seven children lodged over my head. Sallied out at half-past three down to the printer. Called upon Murray, whom I found just about to set off with his son and Harness to a villa dinner with Andrews the bookseller. Pressed me to accompany them, and I had half a mind thereto, but thought better of it. A note from Bowles to propose our dining together at the Athenæum; assented. Found at the Athenæum Smith and Mathews. Told a pun of Smith's: on Mathews saying, on some occasion, of Tom Hill, "Will nobody stop that fellow's mouth?" "Not *me*," said Smith, "I know the way to Highgate, but not to Muswell Hill (Muzzle Hill)."

4th. At work, as well as the infernal noises would let me, most of the morning. Called at Rogers's; saw Miss R.; she and he have been passing the week at Cashiobury. Yesterday, Brougham, Denman, and Lord Duncannon had come down to dinner there, in an odd little sort of garden-chair belonging to the Chancellor.

5th. Out pretty early. Meant to have called at Holland House, but rain came on and prevented me. Paid visits. Called on Lord John Russell, whom I found dressing to go to Holland House with Lord Holland, who was waiting for him at the door. Asked me (as he had done when I was last in town) to come and take up my quarters at the Pay Office. Half-promised to do so. Dined at Lord Lis-towel's; only themselves. Music in the evening.

6th. Dined with Macdonald at eight: company, Fazakerley, T. Baring, Wilmot Horton, Sir A. Johnston, Robert Grant, and the Brahmin Rammohun Roy, a very remarkable man, speaking English perfectly, and knowing all

about English institutions, even to the details of Scotch boroughs. Said that most of the Brahmins are Deists. Gave an account of a society at Calcutta, formed of persons of all countries, religions, and sects—Hindoos, Mussulmen, Protestants, Catholics. A sort of service performed at their meetings, from which all such names as marked any particular faith, as Christ, Mahomet, &c. &c., were excluded; but the name of God in all languages and forms, whether Jehovah, Bramah, or any other such title, retained.

7th. Breakfasted at Rogers's: Sydney Smith, Lord John, Luttrell, and Greville. Sydney beyond anything amusing. * * * Left Rogers's with Lord John, who repeated with much earnestness his wish that I should come to his house. Told Lord John, laughingly, when we were parting, that "I had better not come to him; I should bring disgrace upon a ministerial residence;" but he pressed me most kindly to do so, and having asked me to dine with him on Saturday next (the first dinner he has ever given), I promised that I would become his lodger on that day. A message by Luttrell from Holland House, to ask me to dine to-day. Dined at Sir George Phillips's: company, Sydney again, Ladies Charlemont and Davy, Lord John, and the Listers. It was mentioned, I think, by Sydney Smith, as a proof how little political men sometimes understand each other, that he found Canning (on meeting him once somewhere abroad) quite under the impression that Sir F. Burdett was ambitious of seizing the reins of government. Got a note from Lord Lansdowne from Bowood, just before he left it, asking me to name some day to dine with him, and proposing Sunday: was obliged to answer that I was engaged every day but the 15th and 18th till the 21st and 22nd: indeed, I already have duplicates and triplicates for most of my days, and for the 18th am *asked*, but have not yet *answered*.

8th. Went at three to Power's to meet Bishop about the arrangement of my songs for the summer fête: he did not come, however. Dined at Longman's. Had been asked to Lord Essex's, to Mrs. Norton's, and one or two other places: Dr. Lardner, McCulloch, Mr. Dickinson, &c. &c. Talking of writers who, like Scott, are in the habit of dictating to amanuenses, that it makes them diffuse, Me-

Culloch quoted Adam Smith as an instance. His "Theory of Moral Sentiment," which he wrote with his own pen, being admirable in its style, while the "Wealth of Nations," which he dictated, is exceedingly diffuse. Quoted some Irish depositions of a witness who had gone to present a writ, "that on deponent's reaching the door of the house, a man appeared at the window with a gun, and threatened to blow his (deponent's) bloody soul to the devil, which deponent verily believes he would have done."

9th. Breakfasted at Holland House, having sent word by Luttrell that I would do so. No one at breakfast but Lord H. and Allen. Talking of metre, difference between the musical ear and poetical ear, Lord H. said that the person who came next to me in the excellence of the former was Monk Lewis. Talked of Lowth; that he spoiled the language. "Who's there?" "Me." This he thought not only English, but good English, in the same manner that the Frenchman would answer "*Moi*." Long conversation with Lord H. on the question of West India slavery; thought it one of the most difficult points they (the ministers) had to handle; the great fear lest they should go too far. Brougham particularly committed himself to great lengths. Told me the whole course of the King's conduct in the affair of the dissolution. It was long a point of ticklish doubt with them whether he could go along with their views; had a great dislike to dissolution. When they came to him, however, after the division, and represented the necessity of such a step, he agreed at once and without hesitation, saying, when they asked how soon it was his Majesty's pleasure it should take place, "As you consider it necessary, the more despatch and decision it is done with the better." Lord H. evidently nervous about the whole state of affairs. In reading a speech of William Brougham's at some meeting, where he used the words "The Lords *dare* not reject the bill," Lord H. said, "Very imprudent words from the brother of a minister; these are the things that do us harm with the King." Talked of the state of the press: the great misfortune of the total severance that had taken place between those who conduct it and the better rank of society; even from literature it had become, in a great measure, sepa-

rated, instead of forming, as in France, a distinguished branch of it. "Now *you*," he said, "and all the other eminent literary persons of the day, keep as much aloof from 'the gentlemen of the press' as we of the political world do; and they are, therefore, thrown, with all their power and their virulence, unsoftened by the commerce of society, to form a separate and hostile class of themselves." Summoned to my Lady's room; very gracious. In asking me how Bessy kept her looks, she said, "I thought her a beautiful woman, when I saw her." Walked into town. Dined at Sotheby's: company, Jekyll, Sydney Smith, Bowleses, &c.

10th. Finding myself unable to do anything at home, went off in despair to Kensington Gardens, though the day was rainy, and got wet going there. Sauntered about for some hours, taking shelter during the rain, and contrived to get through a page or two of my work. Called, in returning, at Lord Listowel's, and got some luncheon, which was most welcome. Dined at Sir F. Burdett's: company, Rogers, Joy, Stevenson, Lady Sarah Bailey, &c. Went from dinner to Lady Grey's great assembly. Lady Grey, whom I found labouring under her task of reception, asked me to occupy the chair next to her for a little while. This I saw was partly as a relief and help in her conversation with her presentees, and partly to keep others from occupying the chair.

11th. Breakfasted at Rogers's: Sydney Smith, Wilmot Horton, and Luttrell. Walked some time with Sydney, who again reminded me, with much kindness, of my promise to pay him a visit in Somersetshire this autumn. Talked of Mrs. Moore, and of all the praises he had heard of her, and hoped I should be able to persuade her to come too. Dined at Lord John's, having removed all my goods from Bury Street thither. Company, Lady Hardy and her daughters, Lord Seaford, Lord Fordwich and his brother. Went in the evening to the Opera, the Burdett's having sent me a ticket. Lord Seaford took me. Pasta and Taglioni both incomparable.

12th. Staid great part of the morning at home, enjoying the delicious quiet of my nice retired room looking into the Park; such a contrast to Bury Street! Lord John and I breakfasted together. Told me of Lord Grey's

communication of the Reform plan to the King, who had been very anxious during the concoction of it. Lord Grey remained with him three hours, and almost immediately after their interview, the King said to Lord Holland (it was at Brighton), on the latter inquiring after his Majesty's health, "I am very well, and I assure you all the better for two or three hours' conversation I have just had with Lord Grey, which has been very comfortable to me." Called upon Corry, who arrived in town last night. Walked about together. Saw Shiel at the Athenæum. In talking of the certainty there would be of my election for almost any place in Ireland that I chose, he assured me that if I had selected Louth to stand for, he himself would not have the least chance against me. Dined at the Fieldings', who, on finding that I had refused the Lansdownes on account of my engagement to them, asked the Lansdownes to meet me. Company: Lord and Lady Lansdowne, Lord Mahon, Sir E. Deering, the Nortons, Luttrell, &c. Singing in the evening by Mrs. Norton and myself. Told her of my intention to dedicate my "Summer Fête" to her, which seemed to please her very much.

13th. Breakfasted with Moore the sculptor, to the routing-up of my day. Told me of Chantrey's saying, in his artist language, looking at his own bust of Sir Walter Scott, "I must put a little more into that head." Dined at Phillipps's (George, junior): company, Sydney Smith, Spring Rice and Lady, George Lamb, Lord King's eldest son, &c. &c. Sat next to young King, who had just returned from his travels in Egypt and elsewhere. Told me that "he had been over all the scenes of the Epicurean." I was placed far away from Sydney, *procul à Jove*; which he himself complained of afterwards, saying, he could only get a glimpse of me now and then through the flowers of the *plateau*, like "Love among the roses." Neither did they seem to be much more agreeable in that upper region.

14th. Walked into the Park to enjoy the band, which plays every morning just near the house. Lord John's table loaded every morning with letters from all parts of the country. Lucky for him that he is so little of an irritable or fussy nature. Being now the mark for the whole country to look to, every suggestion and criticism respecting the Bill

(most of them from men of local knowledge, and therefore demanding attention) is levelled at him. Shiel, having mentioned to me his wish to become a member of Brookes's, I sounded to-day some of the leading persons of the club, and found that they had no doubt of his being readily elected. Walked for some time with Lord Durham, who had just been at the creation of the new peers, A. Ellis, Lord Fingall, &c. &c. In talking of the necessity that might arise for a further creation, he said, so far from hesitating at such a step, he would, if they had a majority of 400 in the Lords against the bill, create 401 peers rather than lose it. Met Agar Ellis (Lord Dover), with whom I was to dine, on my way home to dress. Company: the Lansdownes, Lord and Lady Morley, Miss Berry, C. Greville, S. Smith, Lord Brougham and his step-daughter, Miss Spalding. In the evening sang. Brougham's delight at my singing; said of 'This world is the planet,' "It is all so *nice*." Mentioned, with great praise, my "Vision of Chancery" as one of the best things of the kind ever written. Told me of a party he had made to go see Buckingham Palace next Sunday, and asked me to join them. S. Smith amusing before dinner; his magnanimity (as he called it) in avowing that he had never before heard of La-martine (of whom Miss Berry and I were speaking). "Was it another name for the famous blacking man?" "Yes." "Oh, then, he's Martin here, La-Martine in France, and Martin Luther in Germany." He never minds what nonsense he talks, which is one of the great reasons of his saying so much that is comical.

15th. Conversation with Lord John at breakfast about my coming into Parliament. He said, that as I wished but for a short trial of it, it was a pity I had not come in this time, the duration of the Parliament being just what would have suited me. Talked about *preparing* speeches; agreed that to speak well it was necessary to prepare in some shape or other, but whether to write down what one prepares? Lord Grey, he said, had wished him to write down beforehand his speech for the introduction of the Reform Bill, and he tried to do so; but found he could not, in delivery, keep to what he had written. Asked him whether it was true that his illustration of "Old lamps for new ones," produced little, if any, effect at

the time he spoke it? Said it *was* true; but owing, he thinks, very much to some interruption that occurred behind him, and which made him turn round from the house while he was delivering the passage. Said that Brougham used to sneer a good deal at this image of his, saying, for instance, "Gentlemen who talk figuratively about lamps," &c. &c. Peel (Lord J. said) a very dexterous debater. Went down to the printer's. To-day the Hollands came to Lord John's, which will a good deal disturb the quiet of the house. Had a specimen, while dressing for dinner, of what I was to expect; a message being brought by my Lady's page to say, they would be at home to-night at eleven, if I would look in upon them. Dined at Cunliffe's; a dreary set except the Ordes and Mrs. Meynell, whom I sat next. She talked most enthusiastically of my Life of Byron, and begged of me a bit of his writing for some lady, a friend of hers at Paris, whom she said it would be the making of; there being a great Russian princess there, whose name I forget, who does nothing day and night but read my book, and rave of Byron, and her great ambition is to have some of Byron's writing, which, if this lady can procure for her, it may be the means of helping her materially in some object she wishes to gain from this said princess. Under such circumstances, of course, could not refuse, though I have but a scrap or two left disposable. Taken home by Lord and Lady James O'Brien. Joined the Hollands, Lord H. just returned from a Cabinet dinner. Lord John had stolen off to bed. They had been employed at their dinner chiefly (Lord H. said) in "mending sentences" (the King's speech, no doubt). A little after twelve my Lady retired, and intimated that he ought to do so too; but he begged hard for ten minutes more. Talked of the sedition and blasphemy that was abroad, and the difficulty there was in dealing with it. "I wish," he said, "some of you gentlemen who have clever pens, would exert yourselves to check it." "We could hardly do so," I answered, "without taking up the old anti-Jacobin tone, which, on *me*, at least, would sit rather awkwardly." He then began reciting some fine passages of Cowper, and continued, as he lay on his back on the sofa, spouting out to the amount of two or three hundred lines. It was past one before I left him. In writing to Syd-

ney Smith to-day, sending him Crabbe's address, which he wanted, I said that "I was sorry he had gone away so soon from Ellis's the other night, as I had improved (*i.e.* in my singing) afterwards, and he was one of the few I always wished to do my *best* for." In answer to this received the following flattering note from him, written evidently under the impression that I had been annoyed by his going away:—

"My dear Moore,—By the Beard of the Prelate of Canterbury, by the cassock of the prelate of York, by the breakfasts of Rogers, by Luttrell's love of side-dishes, I swear that I had rather hear you sing than any person I ever heard in my life, male or female. For what is your singing but beautiful poetry floating in fine music and guided by exquisite feeling? Call me Dissenter, say that my cassock is ill put on, that I know not the delicacies of decimation, and confound the greater and the smaller tithes; but do not think or say that I am insensible to your music. The truth is, that I took a solemn oath to Mrs. Beauclerk to be there by ten, and set off, to prevent perjury, at eleven; but was seized with a violent pain in the stomach by the way, and went to bed.

"Yours ever, my dear Moore, very sincerely,
"SYDNEY SMITH."

16th. Called upon Shiel to take him, according to promise, and introduce him to Lord Lansdowne; had fixed the hour with Lord L., who was all kindness to him. Invited him to their ball, this evening. Called upon Corry, and he and Shiel and I drove off to the Charter House to see Tom. Their delight with him. Corry not having seen him for some time, thought him wonderfully improved, and the image of his mother. The dear dog *was* looking very pretty and animated, I must say for him. Went on to see Barnes, with whom we were to have dined on Saturday, but had been put off on account of his illness. Found him recovering, but still in a bad state. Dinner at Longman's. Left at eleven, having promised Lady Lansdowne that I should make a point of coming to her ball. Found Lord Ducie and Lord Sherborne sauntering about the square, afraid of the heat inside. Shoals of royalty there; Cumberlands, Cambridges, Landgravines, &c. &c. Forgot to mention on Monday

last that I had had a note on that morning from Lady Jersey, one of the patronesses of the Irish Bazaar, asking me to send her my hand-writing on some pretty cards (which I was to get in her name, at some place in Bond Street), and saying, she was sure it would be a thing that would bring a good deal of money. It would, I fear, have looked conceited on my part, but had there been time I dare say I should have done it. Was talking to her now about this, when the Landgravine (our Princess Elizabeth) called her over, and desired she would present me to her. Nothing could be more overwhelmingly civil than her Royal II.'s reception of me. "Every one must be desirous of knowing Mr. Moore, and it had been for years her ambition," &c. &c. Lady Lyndhurst very amusing and handsome; took pains to pick out one of the prettiest roses of her bouquet for me.

17th. Met Bishop at Power's, to arrange about my music. Mentioned what some of the fine ladies of the Bazaar had told me of the trouble some of their customers had given in looking over different things and not buying any; and that they were sure some of the tradesmen they had themselves plagued in this way had come there expressly to turn the tables on them. Bishop remarked that this would tell very well in a farce, and so it would. Staid to dine at Power's, and went to the Fieldings in the evening. Had some music.

18th. Had breakfast at Lord John's: Sydney Smith, Rogers, Luttrell, Allen, Greville, and Lady Hardy. Talking of battles; a fellow being "shot in the drum." Sydney S. told of a young officer in his first battle, who, having been for some time fighting without well knowing where he was, at last, seeing the party he was immediately engaged with giving way, took off his cap and began roaring enthusiastically, "Victory! Victory!" on which some veteran near him cried out, "Hold your tongue, you foolish fellow; we have been retreating these two hours." Luttrell quoted from Henry VI., "Knowest thou the Lord of Salisbury?" "Right well, and oft have shot at him;" which Sydney parodied, "And oft have preached at him." On looking at the play itself I find the fun of the quotation vanishes, as what the gunner says to his son is as follows:—

"Sirrah, thou knowest how Orleans is besieged,
And how the English have the suburbs won ;

to which the other answers, "Father, I know, and oft have shot at them." (1st part Hen. VI. act. i. sc. 4.) Kirk, the Irish sculptor, came with a cast of his bust of me. Introduced him to Lord John and Rogers; they didn't like it. Walked with Sydney Smith: told me his age; turned sixty. Asked me how I felt about dying. Answered that if my mind was but at ease about the comfort of those I left behind, I should leave the world without much regret, having passed a very happy life, and enjoyed (as much, perhaps, as ever man did yet) all that is enjoyable in it; the only single thing I have had to complain of being want of money. I could therefore die with the same words that Jortin died, "I have had enough of everything." Dined at Lansdowne House; Corry and I went together: company, Lord Mulgrave, the Cunliffes, Luttrell, &c.

19th. While we were at breakfast Lord William was announced as just arrived from Paris. I begged Lord John to let me give him up his room (the bed-room I occupy being that Lord W. always sleeps in); but he said, "No, no, you shan't be disturbed; he shall have Pudar's" (Lord J.'s servant) "room; it's a very good one;" and immediately ordered Pudar to get it ready for him. The meeting between the brothers highly characteristic; so quiet, but at the same time so cordial. Lord W. gave us an account of the state of France, which he thinks promises for peace. Went to Power's, and saw dear Tom, just returned from Greenwich, where Power had taken him to see the Prowses. Dined at Lord Grey's: company, the new-made Lord Munster and Lady, Lord Frederick Fitzclarence, Lady Clanricarde, the Dawson Damers, Sydney Smith, &c. &c. The beauty of the scene from the back windows; the Park and its beautiful gardens, swarming with such a gay-coloured population. Sang a good deal in the evening, as did Wortley, Mrs. Bradshaw, &c.

20th. Lord John, at breakfast, returned to the subject of my "Lord Edward."* Asked me what I meant to do about it? Told him that I could not now, in justice to myself, give

* Sir John Newport also spoke to me on the subject at Brooke's: said he was very angry with me about it; that such a book would do great mischief; and that my friend Lord Lansdowne thought the same that he did about it.

it up or even defer the publication; people (in Ireland particularly) would think it was from my friends having come into power that I was influenced; that I looked to place, &c. &c. "Be assured," I said, "that it will do no mischief; at least, will not *add* to the mischief which is but too abundant and inevitable already. I should only damage my own character by what you wish me to do, without any good whatever resulting from it to others. I mean, in a preface to the work, to inculcate confidence in the present Ministry, and to express my own reliance upon their honest intentions towards Ireland; and a good word of this kind from an honest and consistent man (humble though he be), will do you more *service* than anything that is in the work can do harm, or than I could *ever* do either you or myself if I were to tarnish my reputation by any suspicious compliance with the wishes of persons in power." In answer to all this, Lord John said, that he did not much mind it himself, but that, Lord Holland being related to Lord Edward's family, it would look (to say the least of it) ungracious towards him to publish such a work in opposition to his wish. I then reminded him of what I had already told him—namely, that Lord Holland was the person who had the most strongly urged me to the task, and had even, in answer to a letter of mine, in which I had rather confounded the character of my present hero with my two former ones, Sheridan and Byron, said expressly, "It is a very different task; for you can do full justice to poor Edward's memory without wounding or even offending the feelings of any person whatever." In the course of our conversation, in speaking of the *danger* of such a work in the present excited state of the public mind, I said, "Why, the subject has become historical; and I don't see why it should be more dangerous than your own 'Life of Lord Russell' would be, if published now." To this Lord John answered (but too truly), in his little quiet way, "Ah, that's a quarrel that has been long made up; not so with the Irish question." Went to the printer's, and at three o'clock started in a coach for Tunbridge Wells, having promised the Godfreys to pay them a short visit. Found them all well, and most cordially glad to see me. Slept at the inn.

21st. Breakfasted with the Godfreys; visited

all the old places rendered memorable to me by our gay party here in the year 1806 or 1807*; the house which poor Lady Donegal had; the lodging which Rogers, W. Spencer, and myself lived in; the assembly room on the Pantiles, where I used to dance with my pretty friend, Mrs. Barbat, &c. &c. Drove about to different pretty spots; called at Mrs. Tighe's, who was anxious to have me at a party in the evening, which I luckily escaped.

22nd. Breakfasted with the Godfreys, and started for town at ten o'clock. Was to have gone to Lady Wharncliffe's *déjeuner*, but did not. Went to the printer's. Dined at the Athenæum, and home early to dress for Lady Frances Leveson's play, "Hernani" (Lord F.'s rhyme translation). The Queen there, and many other royal persons. Miss Kemble played the heroine, and Lord F. himself Don Ruy.

23rd. Breakfast with Lord John and Lord William: very agreeable. The latter proposed that we should go together to the Duchess of Bedford's *déjeuner*. The day fine, and the assemblage of pretty women in these green flowery grounds (Camden Hill) very charming. Lady Cowper gave me her arm, and we walked together to have strawberries and cream; a delightful person. Pretty as it all was, I soon got tired of it, and returned to town. Met Rogers at Brookes's, and agreed to dine with him and go to hear Paganini. The opera ("Prova d'un Opera seria") very amusing, and Pasta, in her new aspect of comic actress, admirable. Paganini abuses his powers: he *could* play divinely, and *does* sometimes for a minute or two; but then come his tricks and surprises, his bow in convulsions, and his enharmonics like the mewlings of an expiring cat. Had some talk, by the bye, with Lord Francis at the *déjeuner*.

24th. Breakfasted at Rogers's to meet Macaulay. Talking of Pascal's "Lettres Provinciales," Macaulay said it was almost the only book one could never get tired of. Spoke of the proof that is afforded of *fame* by the creation of new words, such as *Quixotic*, which pervades all languages, *Machiavellian*, *Rodomontade* (from Rodomont), &c. R. told me that the Duke of Wellington had said lately

to him, in speaking of my "Lord Edward," that "he could not conceive what I could make of it." Called with Corry at the Speaker's; met himself at a little distance from his house, and asked permission to go under the gallery that evening to hear Lord John bring forward the Reform Bill. Granted it most readily. Found Mrs. M. Sutton and the girls; asked us to dine some day, and we fixed tomorrow, Barnes having just put us off (in consequence of illness) from an engagement that Corry and I and Shiel had made with him for that day. Returned home to work a little, and went to the House of Commons with C. between four and five. Lord John's speech was (I could not help feeling) somewhat feeble and diluted, except in one or two passages. It was, however, well received, and the passage where he applied Cromwell's words, "The Lord hath delivered them into our hands," to the conduct of the opponents of reform, produced considerable effect. There being no debate, we were let off earlier than we expected, and dined at the Piazza; Corry insisting on bearing the damage of the dinner, and giving me turtle and claret. Went to the Haymarket Theatre.

25th. Lord John a little tired this morning, though he felt not at all so (he said) last night. His speech took two hours in delivery. In talking of the passage where he quoted Cromwell, said, that though he had *thought* over that point in preparing himself, he had not intended to use it upon this occasion till a few minutes before he brought it out. This shows great self-possession in speaking. Dined at the Speaker's; none but the family, besides Corry and myself. The Speaker very agreeable: described his dinner lately with the King, on the day when all the judges dined with him. The King had asked him that very morning at the levee, saying, "I don't well know what name to call you by, for you know you are not Speaker now; but still I will say, Mr. Speaker, I am most happy to see you here, and if you have nothing better to do to-day, I wish you would come and meet the Judges at dinner." Described the manner in which the King wakes suddenly from his occasional dozes after dinner, and dashes at once into conversation. On that day he rather awkwardly, in one of these *sorties*, began upon the subject of the Queen's trial, saying that he had high respect for judges, but by no means the same

* See his *Works*. "Lines to Lady H., on an old ring found at Tunbridge Wells." (Dated 1805.) See also his letters in the 1st vol. of this work.

feeling for lawyers, who were often led, by their zeal for their clients, to do things by no means justifiable; "As you may recollect," he added, turning to Brougham and Denman, "in a case where you, gentlemen, were concerned," &c. &c. He got out of this scrape, however (the speaker said), very good-humouredly and skilfully. The Speaker told us several interesting anecdotes of the old King during his last melancholy years of madness, blindness, and, at last, utter deafness, which he had himself heard from his father, the Archbishop, who was one of the persons chiefly entrusted with the task of visiting and superintending the care of the Royal patient. The old King's horror at the first suggestion of a strait waistcoat, and his saying that he would go on his knees to the Archbishop if he would save him from it. His notions of kingly power to the last, and the cunning with which he contrived to keep up the appearance of it, ordering carriages and horses to be ready at a particular hour, and then taking care to *countermand* them a little before the time arrived. The Prince, not having seen him for a long time (it being found that intercourse with any of his own family excited and irritated him), was at length permitted one day to come into the apartment for a few minutes, and look at his father as he sat in his chair, without speaking. Shortly after his departure, the old King, in taking his usual exercise of walking round the room, stopped suddenly on the spot where the Prince had been standing, and said, "If I did not know it was impossible, I should say that the Prince of Wales was now in the room;" giving, as his reason, the strong smell of perfume which he perceived.

26th. Went (Lord John and I together, in a hackney coach) to breakfast with Rogers. The party, besides ourselves, Macaulay, Luttrell, and Campbell. Macaulay gave us an account of the state of the *Monothelite* controversy, as revived at present among some of the fanatics of the day. In the course of conversation, Campbell quoted a line, "Ye diners out, from whom we guard our spoons," and looking over at me, said significantly, "You ought to know that line." I pleaded not guilty; upon which he said, "It is a poem that appeared in 'The Times,' which every one attributes to you;" but I again declared that I did not even remember it. Macaulay then broke silence, and

said, to our general surprise, "That is *mine*;" on which we all expressed a wish to have it recalled to our memories, and he repeated the whole of it. I then remembered having been much struck with it at the time, and said that there was another squib still better, on the subject of William Bankes's candidature for Cambridge, which so amused me when it appeared, and showed such power in that style of composition, that I wrote up to Barnes about it, and advised him by all means to secure that hand as an ally. "That was mine also," said Macaulay; thus discovering to us a new power, in addition to that varied store of talent which we had already known him to possess. He is certainly one of the most remarkable men of the day. * * * Returned home to work. Have been sadly interrupted while in town, and shall never again adopt the plan of working in London, or of leaving any part of my books but the mere *printing* to do there. Dined at Fielding's: company, chiefly "young men about town." A party in the evening, and music; the Gents, &c. &c. I never was in better voice, and pleased even *myself*. Sang some duets of my own with Miss Gent and with Lord Villetort.

29th. Took my last breakfast with my kind and excellent host. Made preparations for my departure to-morrow; and, not being able to get a bed in Bury Street, asked Murray to allow me to sleep at his house for the convenience of starting in the morning. Seemed highly pleased at my request. Went to the Charterhouse to see dear Tom. Dressed at Murray's: party at the Duchess of Kent's very large; Leopold, the Duke of Saxe Coburg (just arrived), the Duchess of Cambridge, and an abundant array of nobles and gentry. Went in to dinner with Denison, and got placed between him and his wife (Duke of Portland's daughter), and near Lord Plunket, with whom I had a good deal conversation. The dinner as good as most dinners, and from being so numerous had all the ease of a *table d'hôte*. The Duchess's reception of me very gracious: and Leopold talked to me for near a quarter of an hour in the evening; beginning with Harrow, which he had lately visited, and ending with Lord Byron, of whom he spoke very feelingly and sensibly. Had another royal addition of the Princess Sophia in the evening; and the greater number of the party being engaged to

the Queen's concert, they all separated early, Charles Grant bringing me home. Found supper at Murray's, and got to bed in good time.

Forgot to mention that in one of my conversations with Lord John, about my forthcoming book, I told him that it had been my intention to quote a passage, which I thought very good, from his "Life of Lord Russell," on the subject of popular resistance, but that I had given up the quotation from a fear lest those scribblers, who are accusing the ministry of favouring revolutionary designs, might take advantage of the passage and tease him about it. I added, however, that it was my intention to borrow the thought from him and put it in my own language: to which he answered, "Do; that will be the best way." The following is the passage; and it is after all quiet enough to be fathered by any body: "Whilst they (the Tories) spoke with abhorrence of resistance to their sovereign, their conduct had a direct tendency to produce it: for their silent acquiescence in acts of tyranny encouraged the King to still greater outrages; till, at last, no remedy was to be found but in a revolution. The Whigs, on the other hand, by their persevering opposition, acted in a manner to prevent the necessity of the resistance of which they spoke so much." As it happened, I had no opportunity of introducing this passage at all.

30th. Off at eight o'clock for dear Sloper-ton; found Bessy and her two visitors (Power's two daughters) full of the new pic-nics for archery that have begun in the neighbourhood. One at Locke's yesterday, which, if I had returned sooner, we were to have gone to.

July 1st to 21st. During this and the following month (being at home all the time) I have kept no regular journal. Not being able to put the finishing touch to my "Lord Edward" in town, it was some weeks after my return before the book was published. Sent but few copies about, as there were some of my friends who I *knew* would not like it, and many more whom I was at least doubtful of. Thought it right, however, to send copies to the Duke of Leinster and Lady Campbell, neither of whom has ever since acknowledged or taken the least notice of them. What my Whig friends will think or say of the book I know not, and (I must say) do not much care.

The insight I got into the views and leanings of the party during my last visit to town has taken away much of my respect for them as a political body, and changed my opinion of some as private men. I am convinced that there is just as much selfishness and as much low party spirit among them generally as among the Tories; without any of that tact in concealing the offensiveness of these qualities which a more mellowed experience of power and its sweets gives to the Tories. There are a few men among them who have the public weal, I believe, most sincerely at heart; and these are easily numbered,—Lord Grey, Lord Althorp, Lord John Russell, and Lord Lansdowne; but even these are carried headlong through a measure, of which in their hearts they must see the danger, by an impulse of party spirit which supersedes too much every other consideration; and as to the herd of their followers, any few grains of patriotism there may be among them are so mixed up with an overflowing portion of *self* as to be diluted away to nothing.* The change of tone, too, among some of them would be most amusing if one was not obliged to look grave while one listens.

Found our dear Russell returned from school on my arrival. Made a little party of children to go and dine on the top of Round-away Hill; had a most delicious day of it; Bessy, Mrs. Scott, Mrs. Napier, and myself being the only elders of the party.

About the 12th we had a pic-nic archery meeting at the Phippses'; very gay, and graced by all our pretty girls, Houltons, Lockes, &c. Lord Kerry, who has been sent down to Bowood with a tutor to read, in high glee and rattle all the evening.

22nd. Mulvany, a young Irish artist, arrived from town to pay us a visit on his way to Bristol; stayed to the 29th; went with us to

* I have left this passage as it stands in the Journal, but I cannot subscribe to Moore's judgment on the Whig party. There is, no doubt, in every political party, as in every community, sect, or association of men, a large ingredient of selfishness; but the party of which Moore speaks had followed Mr. Fox, Lord Grey, and Lord Lansdowne for half a century, in the assertion and maintenance of principles which were not likely to lead to favour either with the Court or the people. Opposition to the French war, support of Roman Catholic Claims, enmity to the Slave Trade, promotion of Parliamentary Reform; such were the leading points of a policy which no sensible man could have adopted with any other view than that of advancing the welfare of the State, in spite of the frowns of the Sovereign and the hostility or indifference of the country.—ED.

an archery meeting on the 26th (a regular series of them having been established by subscription at the Spa Rooms at Melksham; Lord Kerry, president, and Lady Theodosia Bute, the patroness). My dear Bessy looking very handsome; and danced gaily all the evening.

28th. Dined at Bowles's: party, Mulvany and ourselves, old Hoyle (the Exodiad poet), and another person. Mentioned a pun of Pitt's, viz., Latin for a *rimy* morning, *Aurora Musis amica*. Never saw Bowles in more amusing plight; played for us on the fiddle after dinner a country dance, which forty years ago he heard on entering a ball-room, to which he had rode, I don't know how many miles, to meet a girl he was very fond of, and found her dancing to this tune when he entered the room. The *sentiment* with which he played this old-fashioned jig beyond anything diverting. I proposed we should dance to it; and taking out Mrs. Bowles, led off, followed by the Powers, Bessy, Mulvany, &c. &c. Our fiddler soon tired, on which Hoyle volunteered a scrape, and played so dolefully slow as to make us laugh in far quicker time than we danced. However, we briskened up his old bow; and Mrs. Moore taking Bowles for a partner, we got through one of the most laughing dances I have seen for a long time. In the course of the evening I sung "Ally Croker," accompanied by Bowles on the violin, much to the amusement of the whole party. Next day, 29th, Mulvany left us.

August 10th. Dined (Corry and I) at Scott's to meet Luttrell and Nugent. Luttrell repeated to me six lines he had written lately about the "two things" that at present "absorb us," being "the bill and the cholera morbus;" that the Tories, "if they had their will, would bring in the complaint to get rid of the bill;" while the Whigs seemed resolved "in this very hot weather," that we should be doomed "to both evils together." He repeated it but once; so I could catch but the general meaning and the tags.

11th. Had the Starkeys to dine, and during dinner Mr. Power arrived in town, bringing with him dear Tom for the holidays.

15th. Power and his two girls left us.

16th to 29th. All this time, and ever since I got rid of my "Lord Edward," have been reading hard at theology for a work I have

now in hand, "Travels of an Irish Gentleman in search of a Religion." Dined one day with Lord Kerry, at Bowood, to meet a young friend of his, O'Brien. Went another day with him to Farley; Bessy was to have accompanied us, but was not well enough.

30th. The last archery meeting for the season; great delight to our dear Tom, who enjoyed himself prodigiously. He and his mamma were both among the archers, and the next in shots to the winner of the silver arrow. Had fixed with the Houltons to go on with them to Farley in the evening; followed their carriage, and arrived there between twelve and one.

September 3rd. Left Farley after three very agreeable days. Had employed myself in the mornings in an article for the "Edinburgh Review," having long promised the editor, Napier, and the Longmans, that I would give them something. Chose the subject of German Rationalism, in consequence of Dr. Brabant having pointed out to me some errors in a late work on that topic. Desired Brabant *also* to write on the subject, and then we should be able to make out something tolerable from our joint labours. The Doctor all delight at the idea of co-operating with me.

4th to 12th. Not a little puzzled with my literary partnership; find I can retain but little of B.'s, and fear he will be disappointed.

13th. Despatched the article to Edinburgh, having retained but two pages of B.'s (the exposition of the principles of Rationalism) in the introductory part, and clothed his detection of Lee's mistake at the end in my own language. Have prepared him as well as I could to find his *bantling* a *changeling*.

24th. Received a proof (contrary to my expectation) of the article, with a letter from Napier, saying, I had his "warmest thanks for this very pungent and very, very admirable article." Happy he likes it. Sent back the proof same day. Had a very pretty party of girls one of these days (the day before the coronation, by the bye) to archery in the morning and dinner; two Lockes, two Starkeys, and two Napiers: no beaux for them but Tom and myself. Sung to them in the evening, and made two of them cry so much, that one went out of the room ashamed of her emotions, and sat on the stairs listening, while the other turned her face to the wall to hide her

disfigurement. This latter a very pretty girl, Sarah Locke.

Lady Lansdowne came down from town, and called upon us soon after her arrival. Told us of the awkward way in which the Archbishop of Canterbury had put on the Queen's crown at the coronation. There had been a little knot or tuft made in dressing her hair, for the express purpose of receiving the crown upon it; and instead of pressing the crown upon this, the archbishop kept it toppling on the top of it; and had not the Queen kept her head quite still till one of the ladies came to her aid, the bad omen of the fall of the crown would have been exhibited. By the bye the Queen being (as is well known) adverse to the measure which is giving such popularity to her royal husband, reminds me a little of the story of the King of Sparta who first gave his assent to the establishment of the Ephori. His wife, it is said, reproached him with this step, and told him that he was delivering down the royal power to his children *less* than he had received it; "Greater," he answered, "because more durable." This is just such an answer as William the Fourth would be likely to give to *his* wife. But the event proved the Spartan Queen to have been right, for the Ephori extinguished the royal power; and if Queen Adelaide's bodings are of the same description, they are but too likely to be in the same manner realised. The Fieldings also returned to Lacock, and called upon us soon after their return; went over one day and dined with them. Have the Miss Gents staying there; so that we had some very good singing in the evening. Made my escape before breakfast in the morning. Lady E. told me that Miss Fox (Lord Holland's sister) had nearly cried her eyes out over my "Lord Edward."

28th. Walked over to Bowood to call upon Lady L.; Lord Lansdowne expected down for two or three days previous to the second reading of the bill in the Lords; brought me part of the way home in her jaunting car.

29th. A note from Lady Lansdowne to say that Lord L. was most anxious to see me, and begging me to come to dinner to-day or to-morrow. Fixed to-morrow, as Mrs. Napier takes her farewell dinner with us to-day.

30th. To Bowood; none but themselves, Lady Louisa, and Kerry. Lord L. I was glad

to see very well. A good deal of talk about the bill, and the state of public opinion: not, to be sure, as unrestrained as our last conversation on the subject some eight months ago, but still (on my side at least) sufficiently open. On my asking him whether it was true that Hallam was a strong anti-reformer, he answered, "Yes, he is; and the world says *you* too are an anti-reformer." This led me to explain how I felt upon the subject, and how it came that my opinions were thus misinterpreted. The fact was that from the very first, while I agreed with the Whigs in the *principle* of the measure, I also agreed with the Tories in their opinion as to its consequences. "How is it, then," said he, "that you can *approve* of a measure which is likely, as you think, to lead to mischievous consequences?" "I do not," I answered, "look upon them to be mischievous, though certainly awful, and, for us who may have to witness them, disagreeable; but the country will ultimately be all the better for the movement. We are now come to that point which all highly civilised countries reach when wealth and all the advantages that attend it are so unequally distributed that the whole is in an unnatural position; and nothing short of a general *routing* up can remedy the evil. This I own is a disagreeable process; to those who have much to lose it may be a fatal one: but there is every reason to think that the country itself will come out of the trial stronger than ever; disencumbered of the financial machinery that now weighs her down, and ready to start in a new course of wealth and greatness. But even should this be a mere dream, the experiment has become in the minds of most people necessary, and is, I am persuaded, about to be tried. The people have received an impulse (I might have added received it in a great measure from this bill): and there never yet has been an instance known of a people stopping in such a career where they *ought* to stop; 'a downhill reformation (as Dryden says) rolls on fast.' Taking this view, whether right or wrong, of the present course of affairs, I certainly cannot help feeling grave at the prospect that is before us. Were I a young man, it would only bricken up the spirit of adventure within me, as I might then hope to outlive the storm, and enjoy the advantage of the calm; but not

being young, and wishing the remainder of my course to continue on the same level as heretofore, I cannot bring myself to dance down these first steps of the precipice so gaily and sanguinely as I see others do. All this produces naturally a sobered, though by no means reluctant, concurrence in measures which I think may be ultimately for the good of the country. but which, whether for good or for ill, are amongst those efforts after improvement which nations from time to time make, and which nations have an undoubted right to make; all that we have of good and free in the world being the result of such endeavours." I have here scrambled (being at this present writing half asleep) into an amplification (or rather I fear *botheration*) of what I said, but this is pretty much the spirit and substance of it.* Slept at Bowood.

October 1st. Returned home after breakfast.

2nd to 10th. Have been under a promise for some time to pay a visit to Sydney Smith, and, after two or three notes exchanged between us on the subject, had nearly made up my mind to set off to him about the 7th or 8th; but some communications from town led me to change my plans. In the first place, I felt a strong wish to see poor Sir Walter Scott (perhaps for the last time) before his departure for Italy; and this wish was not a little increased by learning from Murray that Scott had also expressed a strong desire to see me. In addition to this, the new plan of Murray with respect to Byron's Life and Works (about which he and I had some correspondence) seemed to open to me a chance of making some arrangement with him, so as to get rid of the present balance against me in our account, which I thought ought not to be neglected. I therefore (after having been still more authentically assured of Scott's wish to see me, by a very kind note from Lockhart) resolved to go up to town.

* The event proved that Moore had not well calculated the temper of the country. Far from making a financial revolution or disturbing property, the people were well content to enjoy the advantages of a real representation, and to receive from the House of Commons the abolition of slavery, the commutation of tithes, the reduction of prohibitory duties, the repeal of the corn laws, the equalization of the sugar duties, the repeal of the navigation laws, the promotion of education, and all those other measures which, in the course of twenty years, have been enacted by the wisdom and patriotism of our reformed Parliaments.
—Ed.

11th. Started with Bessy in a chaise for Marlborough: drove directly to the school, and found our darling Russell quite well. At three, Bessy left me to return home, and I had a long and lonely evening at the Duke's Arms.

12th. Off in the Marlborough coach for town; alone all the way, and having a volume of Mosheim to get through, made the most of my time; despatched the four hundred and odd pages on the way, besides writing sixteen lines of a love song for Power. To Murray's, where I had been invited to fix my quarters; received most kindly: went and dined at the Athenæum, meaning to call upon Power afterwards; but the night too bad. Returned and supped at Murray's: found him full of sanguineness about the new edition of Byron; looks to selling 30,000 copies of it. Talk of the sanguineness of men of poetry! your men of trade beat them hollow.

13th. Breakfasted with Murray; called upon Lord John Russell, and found him looking a good deal *pulled*; but much better, every one says, than he has been. Seemed a little bored, and no wonder, at having to "go over the thing all again." Asked me if I could dine with him to day, and I was very glad to say that I could; no one to be at dinner (besides himself and the William Russells) but Lady Holland. Asked him if he thought Lady Holland was angry with me (I meant about Lord Edward). "No," he answered, "I don't think she is." Made some calls. Lady Holland tolerably gracious. In the middle of dinner Lord II., from the House of Lords, joined us (*not* at dinner, for he now dines at three o'clock), and took his seat next me. Thought him at first colder to me than usual; but this might be fancy, and at all events no great matter. Dinner amusing. Allen said some strong things about bishops, which my lady tried to suppress, saying "Such talk was not fit for a convivial party." * * * * Some talk about poetry with Lord II. Was to have joined Lord Cawdor and the Gowers at the Adelphi to see the "Wreck Ashore," Lord C. having asked me this morning, but did not get away in time. Found the Murrays waiting for me on my return.

14th. Spottiswoode and Harness to breakfast at Murray's, for the purpose of consulting about the new edition of Byron. I have not myself come to any decisive explanation

with him as to what *my* part or share in the business is to be. In one of my letters to him, from Sloperton, I had (in answer to his request that I would suggest what I thought useful towards the undertaking) said, that, as far as the works were concerned, I thought a running commentary throughout, like that of Warton on Pope, would be the most attractive means of giving them freshness and novelty with the public; but adding, at the same time, that the task would be a very responsible one, particularly if it was a *rhymist* like me, who undertook to criticise such a poet. Harness very anxious that I should give him an epilogue for the tragedy he is bringing out. A good deal of talk about the projected edition of Byron, in which I saw that Harness took a great lead. Being obliged to leave them soon after breakfast, took Murray out of the room, and impressed upon him, that if I were to have anything to do with this concern it must be left all to myself without any other interference; he said "Certainly." Called upon Mrs. Shelley, who told me she had heard, through some of the Beauclerks, that old Ogilvie was delighted with the way I had done my "Life of Edward."

On my return to Murray's in the course of the day, found Milman. Had already told Murray, on his asking me had I seen the mention of Milman in the last "Edinburgh" (my own article), that I was myself the author of that article, and authorised him to tell Milman so in confidence. Rather a good scene now took place on the subject between us; Murray asked M. had he any suspicion who wrote that article; and on Milman's answering, "Not the least;" "Could you at all have suspected our friend Mr. Moore of such an article?" "Moore!" exclaimed Milman; "No, no, I know Moore to be very multifarious, but I don't think he has yet got to German theology." It was with some difficulty, that when I myself assured him that it was mine, I could get him to believe that I was serious: a good deal of talk upon the subject; about Gesenius, &c. &c. Said he knew of no such able book as that of Gesenius on Isaiah; and that, putting the peculiar opinions of the author out of the question, he had gained from it a greater insight into Isaiah than from all the other commentaries besides. In speaking of the letter which the Bishop of London

wrote him (at the time of the outcry about his "History of the Jews"), approving highly of the work, and condemning the opposition that had been raised to it, Milman told me that the bishop had afterwards got alarmed.

To dinner at Sir Walter Scott's (or rather Lockhart's). On my way to dinner, with Murray, who took me, told him that I had made up my mind to be editor at all events, and that he might announce me as such; which seemed very much to please him. Was rather shocked at seeing and hearing Scott; both his looks and utterance, but particularly the latter, showing strongly the effects of paralysis. At dinner we had, besides Murray and myself, their own family party (the Lockharts and Miss Scott), and Sir William and Lady Rae. Scott took but rarely any share in the conversation, and it was then with difficulty I made out what he said. On going up stairs found rather a large party collected, all Scotch,—Lady Belhaven, Lord and Lady Ruthven, Lady Louisa Stuart, the Macleods, &c. &c. On looking over at Scott once or twice, was painfully struck by the utter vacancy of his look. How dreadful if he should live to survive that mighty mind of his! It seems hardly right to assemble company round him in this state. Saw that I was doomed to sing. Mrs. Lockhart began, and sung her wild song "Achin Foane" (as the words sound) to the harp with such effect on her Scotch hearers as made me a little despair of being listened to after her. I however succeeded very well, and was made to sing song after song till poor Scott's time of going to bed; soon after which I came away. Mrs. Macleod also sang some Scotch duets with her sister. It is charming to see how Scott's good temper and good nature continue unchanged through the sad wreck of almost every thing else that belonged to him. The great object in sending him abroad is to disengage his mind from the strong wish to *write* by which he is haunted; eternally making efforts to produce something without being able to bring his mind collectively to bear upon it—the *multum cupit, nihil potest*. Alas! alas! In my visits this morning called at Lord D.'s, and sat some time with Lady D.: a good deal of talk about politics. I spoke pretty freely my opinion of our friends the Whigs; of their vile practice of canvassing enemies and neglecting friends. As for myself, I said, so long had it

been manifest to me that this was their system, that I had for many years (luckily for my own peace of mind) given up all hopes of their ever *thinking* of doing me a service. So far did this *poco-curantism* of theirs extend, that, even in the trifling article of franking, not one of them (though knowing how much I had to do with printers in the way of transmitting proofs, &c.) ever offered, when in office, to be of any service to me; and I have always gone on (when I could) with my old frankers: with Croker while the Whigs were last in, and with Greville during their present ministry. The only *attempt* at a favour, indeed, I ever experienced for myself was under a Tory administration (Addington's), when, through the medium, it is true, of Lord Moira, I got that unlucky registrarship of Bermuda. Lord Hardwicke, too, when the Tory Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, offered to create a laureateship in Ireland, with the same emoluments as the English one, if I would accept it. Neither ought I to forget that to poor Lord Moira (whom the Whigs hardly acknowledge as one of themselves) I owed the barrack-mastership for my father, which made his latter days comfortable. That from Whigs, as Whigs, I never received even the semblance of a favour. All this I said to Lady D., and she admitted that there was but too much truth, she feared, in the charge, so general against them on this point. On her saying some flattering things of the peculiar claims I had upon the regard of all parties, I answered, that the only merit I could arrogate to myself was, that "I was at no time purchaseable, and that this I believe the Tories knew." "Oh dear," she exclaimed, "if the Tories had such a person as you on their side, we should be made to feel the difference" (alluding, I take for granted, to my knack at ridicule; and God knows how open my friends the Whigs are to that same weapon).

Called at the Speaker's; saw both her and him, and he with much kindness asked me to his country place. When I expressed my wonder at his being able to hold out through all these long nights, he said it was all by *not eating*; if he had lived in his usual way he could not have borne it, but the want of exercise luckily took away his appetite, and this temperance saved him. Called also this morning on Burdett, whom I found laid up with the

gout. In talking with Burdett on Reform, told him I had heard from Lord Lansdowne that he supposed me to be an anti-reformer; told him how this report had arisen from the stupidity of certain of my neighbours, who, seeing but one side of the question themselves (and that but dully), cannot understand the language of a man who happens to see both. On comparing notes with him I found we very much agreed on the subject, except that he is sanguine enough to think that the monarchy *can* go on with a purely popular House of Commons, and I for my part believe no such thing. Such is, no doubt, the *theory* of the English constitution, but it has *never* yet been tried in practice (which Burdett was obliged to own); nor will *ever* I am convinced be brought to work quietly in *saccula seculorum*.

15th. Breakfasted at Athenaeum. To Power's, and thence to Longmans'. Looked over some religious books for my "Travels of an Irish Gentleman." Then on to the Charter House for Tom; found him ready. To Brookes's Club-house, where I took him in to show him the little dingy room where all the great Whig Lords and M. P.s assemble. Found there the Duke of Norfolk, who shook hands with Tom most heartily. I then set off with him to Sir Walter Scott's, being determined that the little dog should have to say in future days that he had seen this great man. Found Lord Clarendon calling at the same time, and admitted with us: Scott very kind to Tom. Had taken with me a book of his (the "Demonology") that he might write his name in it for Bessy. He said that I ought to have let him have the pleasure of giving the book as well as the name. Returned to an early dinner at Murray's for the purpose of taking Tom to the Haymarket in the evening; got admirable places; and were joined in the course of the night by three or four young Greys (Lord Grey's sons), with the youngest of whom, a very nice boy, Tom struck up an acquaintance. Murray also came to join us; and we found Mrs. Murray waiting supper for us on our return.

16th. Out early with Tom in order to surprise Rogers at breakfast; found him entirely recovered from his late illness (having just returned from the country), and in high good humour and playfulness. In talking of the difference of the present times from former

ones, mentioned the circumstance of Charles II. attending the House of Lords' debates, standing with his back to the fire, and interrupting sometimes the members in their speeches (where is this mentioned?). Queen Anne, too, going to hear the debates (?). Showed me a curious passage in the Introduction to Fox's History where the present demand on the part of the people of an entirely popular House of Commons is foreseen and deprecated.

Set off with Tom at twelve for Greenwich in order to see the Prowses; walked about Greenwich with them. Hearing that Lord Auckland had a house there, called upon him; found him and his sisters, and introduced Tom to them, who had asked me very innocently "whether Lord A. was a Reformer." On my telling this to Lord A., he said, "You wouldn't, I hope, have come inside my door, Tom, if you had known I wasn't." Tom himself is, it appears, in a very small minority of Reformers at the Charter House, the great mass of the youngers being *antis*. It is the same, I understand, at Westminster, and wherever the *clergy* interest is prevalent. Left Greenwich at three, bringing Bessy Prowse away with us to dine at Power's; had reserved myself to dine at Scott's in case he would have me, and gave accordingly conditional answers to Burdett and the Speaker, both of whom had asked me. Found a kind note from Mrs. Lockhart to say how happy they would be to have me; and having left Tom at the Powers', dined with Sir Walter. The day interesting on this account; and had it been in his better times, I should have had many a lively tale to enrich these pages with; but he spoke little. In talking of a novel which he had sent to Scott, L. said that it was no matter how bad a book was; if it had but a story in it, Scott would read every word of it; and to this Sir Walter pleaded guilty very amusingly: left them early.

17th. Breakfasted with Rogers to meet my old friends Lord and Lady Dunmore, whom I had not met for, I believe, ten years. Stuart also of the party, and (by accident) Campbell, who had happened to call upon Rogers on business: the conversation at breakfast amusing. Campbell mentioned how his vanity was once mortified on giving his address to some Scotch bookseller: "Campbell!" said the man; "pray, Sir, may you be the great

Campbell?" "Who do you call the *great* Campbell?" said Tom, putting on a modest look. "Why, John Campbell, the African traveller, to be sure," answered the other. In talking of getting into awkward scrapes at dinner tables, Lady Dunmore mentioned a circumstance of the kind in which Rogers himself was concerned. It was at the time when Madame de Staël was expected in London, and somebody at table (there being a large party) asked when she was likely to arrive. "Not till Miss Edgeworth is gone," replied Rogers; "Madame de Staël would not like *two* stars shining at the same time." The words were hardly out of his mouth when he saw a gentleman rise at the other end of the table, and say in a solemn tone, "*Madame la Baronne de Staël est incapable d'une telle bassesse.*" It was Auguste de Staël, her son, whom Rogers had never before seen.

Left Rogers, with Campbell, who told me, as we walked along, the friendly service which Rogers had just done him by consenting to advance 500*l.*, which Campbell wants at this moment to purchase a share in the new (Metropolitan) magazine of which he is editor, the opportunity, if let slip now, being wholly lost to him. Campbell had offered as security an estate worth between four and five thousand pounds which he has in Scotland, but Rogers had very generously said that he did not want security; Campbell, however, was resolved to give it. These are noble things of Rogers, and he does more of such things than the world has any notion of.*

Took my place for Wednesday morning. Received afterwards a note from Lord Lansdowne to say, that if I would wait for the prorogation, he would take me down, and that he believed it would not be later than Friday: determined, however, to keep to my coach plan, having arranged with Milliken and his son to come to Sloperton on Friday, and the time of the prorogation appearing rather doubtful. Went to Longmans' and got some money; looked over some books, and made extracts, and then hastened to Power's to

* Not only more than the world had any notion of, but more than any one else could have done. Being himself an author, he was able to guess the difficulties of men of letters, and to assist them, not only with his ready purse, but with his powerful influence and his judicious advice.—Ed.

meet Bishop for the purpose of some musical arrangements. A large dinner at Murray's, but hardly any of the company he had promised me; Croker, Lord Mahon, and Hallam having sent excuses. The day dull, though a few of the men there, if left to themselves, could have made it otherwise, there being Shiel, James Smith, and Chantrey among the guests; the rest were Lockhart, Wilkie, Lord Napier, Macleod, &c. Got away as soon as I could to Lord Dudley's, where I had been asked to dine; found Lady Dunmore, Lady Ruthven, and Lady Charlemont, the gentlemen not having yet left table. Came away with Rogers, who had been one of the dinner guests; he having undertaken to negotiate for me with Murray as to what sum to get for my name and co-operation in this new edition of Byron: thinks I ought to have 1000*l.*; but I shall be very well pleased if it but rids me of this incubus of a bill, by which I have been so long haunted.

18th. My last day in town; busy about commissions, &c.: was to have dined at Lord Belhaven's, but found I could not manage it comfortably; dined earlyish with Murray, and went out for an hour or two afterwards.

19th. Off at half-past eight in the "White Hart." Found Bessy, as I expected, at "Devizes, where she had been passing the two last days with the Scotts, and took her home. * * *

November 1st. Napier came to pass a day or two with us. Riots at Bristol.

2nd. While we were at breakfast, Phillips, our curate, came over in a state of great agitation, having received a letter from his wife's father, whose property at Bristol had been all destroyed on Sunday night. Scene between him and Napier; Napier, anxious to be at home, there being reports of riots also at Bath, left us after breakfast.

3rd to 9th. Saw my "Lord Edward" announced as one of the articles in the "Quarterly," to be abused of course; and this so immediately after my dinings and junketings with both editor and publisher! Having occasion to write to Murray, sent him the following squib:—

THOUGHTS ON EDITORS.

Editur et edit.

No, editors don't care a button

What false and faithless things they do;

They'll let you come and cut their mutton,

And then they'll have a cut at you.

With Barnes I oft my dinner took,
Nay, met ev'n Horace Twiss to please him;
Yet Mister Barnes traduced my book,
For which may his own devils seize him!

With Doctor Bowling I drank tea,
Nor of his cakes consumed a particle;
And yet th' ungrateful LL.D.
Let fly at me next week an article.

John Wilson gave me suppers hot,
With bards of fame like Hogg and Packwood,
A dose of black strap then I got,
And after a still worse of "Blackwood."

Alas, and must I close the list
With thee, my Lockhart, of the "Quarterly,"
So kind, with bumper in thy fist,—
With pen, so *very* gruff and tartarly.

Now in thy parlour feasting me,
Now scribbling at me from thy garret,—
Till 'twixt the two in doubt I be
Which sourest is, thy wit or claret.

Found, on looking at my memorandum book, that my bill on Murray (500*l.*), which I had taken it into my head would not be due till January, will fall due next month. Wrote instantly to him to express my hope that some arrangement might be made, springing out of our proposed plan with respect to the new edition of Byron, by which this suspended transaction between us might be finally settled. * * *

10th. To dinner at Lacock; none beside themselves but Lord Valletort and Mademoiselle Emmeline. Had known very little of him before, and once rather disliked him; but he appears to me an honest, kind-hearted man, and, though a strong Tory, seems a fair one. Told some interesting things of the Duke of Wellington, to whom he is (like all who have been much about him) strongly attached. His saying, that no man should hesitate to apologise whenever he had said or done anything that required one; yet in military affairs he has been known on more than one occasion to avoid owning he was wrong, though conscious that he *was* so. This done on principle. "No, no; never put myself wrong with the army." His shedding tears when he took leave officially of the Queen at his last resignation; this the Queen herself told Lord Valletort. Of the King, Lord V. told several little things which show great good-nature and warm-heartedness. Music in the evening; Valletort's voice good, but not under good management. His father and mother were (as I told him) amongst my earliest acquaintance in London. I remember how proud I used to be of going to

Lady Mount Edgcombe's suppers (one or two at the most) after the Opera. It was at one of these, sitting between Mrs. Siddons and Lady Castlereagh, I heard for the first time the voice of the former (never having met her before) transferred to the ordinary things of this world,—and the solemn words in her most tragic tone,—“I do love ale dearly.”

13th. A letter from Murray, which threw me into no little consternation, as it not only defeated all my hopes of being able to settle the forthcoming bill by some arrangement as to my editorship of Byron, but coolly tells me that, in consequence of his having got entangled with —, I am not to be editor of that work at all. This, after having courted me to undertake the task, after having gladly accepted me as editor. Wrote to Rogers and the Longmans, acquainting them with this disappointment, and the quandary it had thrown me into with respect to the bill.

14th. Was to have dined at Bowood, but put off my starting till it was late: and then, as the weather was bad, delayed, in expectation that the Scotts, who were also going, would call upon me; but they did not, and I was forced to have a broil at home.

15th. Called upon Lord Lansdowne to explain my mishap of yesterday. Some talk with him about the public dinner to him at Devizes to-morrow. Asked me how far I thought they would expect him to be communicative on the subject of Reform, as it was rather a ticklish thing for him (being the only one of the ministers thus brought *en evidence* during the recess) so to manage as to send his hearers away satisfied, without at the same time too much committing himself. He added, that his colleagues were rather uneasy on the subject. Told him that I thought his true policy was at all events not to be too short with them. They would then go away with the impression that he had been very communicative; whereas, if he said but little, though there might be twice as much matter in it, they would be sure to say, “How short and costive he was with us.” But on the plan I suggested, even though the more acute might see through his policy, they could only say, “How well he managed in such a difficult position to give perfect satisfaction to his hearers, without in the least degree committing himself or colleagues!” This ne seemed to think a just view of it, which I

was glad of for every reason. Walked a good part of the way home with me.

16th. Corry arrived for the dinner in consequence of a letter I wrote to ask him over; at a little after four Lord Lansdowne called for us (having Senior, the political economist, with him), and we all proceeded to Devizes. Nothing could go off better than the dinner. I was seated between Corry and Senior, and opposite the chairman and Lord Lansdowne: Lord L.'s speech excellent; there was not a dissenting voice as to its good tone and good taste. The reception of my health most enthusiastic, and my speech exceedingly well received.

19th to 30th. Received very kind letters both from the Longmans and Rogers: the former telling me not to have the slightest uneasiness on the subject of the 500*l.*, as they would *retain* my bill on Murray, and put the amount to my account; the latter offering most cordially to pay the 500*l.* for me himself.

December 1st and 2nd. Met Fielding on my way to Bowood; the marriage to take place next Tuesday, the 6th.

3rd to 9th. On the 6th Caroline Fielding's marriage at Bowood; none but the relations of the family present; and after the ceremony, which took place at night, Lady Lansdowne and the rest of the party set off for La-cock, leaving the bride and bridegroom at Bowood.

10th. Lord and Lady Valletort passed on their way to Lord Ilchester's. Soon after a note arrived from Lady Lansdowne to Bessy, saying that she and the Fieldings were returning to Bowood, and asking us to come there to-morrow and stay till Monday. Obligated to refuse on account of the boys coming from school to-morrow.

11th. Another note from Lady L., pressing that we should come, and saying that the whole party were very downcast, and my company would do them a great deal of good. Promised to come to-morrow. Russell the only arrival, Tom not being able to leave school till Tuesday next.

12th. To Bowood to dinner, Bessy and I and Russell; the party: Fielding, Lady Elizabeth and Horatia, Montgomery, and Madlle Emmeline; very agreeable.

13th. The day most tempestuous; the Fieldings returned home, but, Lady Lansdowne insisting, very kindly, on our staying, we did so.

The Miss Selwyns to dinner; Henry Fitzmaurice and myself the only males. Lady L. said after dinner, "How proud he was to do the honours to me; he little expected such grandeur." He is a very nice boy, and inherits all the unaffectedness and good nature of his excellent father and mother. Music in the evening.

14th. After breakfast tried over some masses with Lady Louisa on the organ, or rather she played them and I sung some of the passages; magnificent things of Haydn's. Bessy then walked through the pleasure grounds to Buckhill, to remain there till to-morrow (Tom coming by the coach this evening), while I returned home and dined alone.

15th to 25th. Ella Houlton came to us to go to the Devizes ball; dreary work at the ball; home at three. Have not time to notice the heaps of strange letters I have been receiving: such as, from a young lady, with a MS. poem; from some anonymous person in Ireland, lamenting that my delightful talents should continue to be sacrificed to party, and that the Radicals in England and the Papists in Ireland should both consider themselves entitled to claim me as their own,—the latter (the writer said) being the more extraordinary, as I was bringing up my own children to that religion (Protestant) which I ridiculed, and seemed to despise, and which my talented sister professed to be her own.

Have had various letters too from Ireland on the subject of *Neilson* (Lord Edward's man), my mention of whom has produced an immense excitement among the Northerners; and, as usual, with my countrymen, they not only run away with the thing, but run away with it in a wrong direction. So wholly, too, have they lost sight of the original passage which set them a-going, that they now represent me as having *accused* Neilson of betraying Lord Edward, whereas I merely mentioned his having been suspected of it; and they show there were no sufficient grounds for such suspicion. Amongst other letters on the subject, I have received one from old Hamilton Rowan, which was civil and gratifying. Shiel, too, transmitted one to me from Dr. Doyle about the same matter, most laudatory, saying that I had a far better right than Swift to be called "Ireland's glory," &c. &c. Talking of letters on the subject, I think I have forgot

to mention one which I received several months ago; a communication from the King of the French, through my old acquaintance, and his right-hand man, Chabot*: nothing could be more in character with the *Citoyen Roi* than the directness and informality of this communication, which was with reference to the claim of Lady Edward to the near relationship she is supposed to have borne to the family of Orleans. This the King denies; and both he and Madame Adelaide express their desire that I would set the matter right in a future edition.

26th. Went to Lacock—Bessy, myself, and the boys, to stay till Wednesday. The Lockes to dinner, C. Talbot, and Montgomery; music in the evening.

27th. On asking Fielding as to the propriety of some sea phrases I was introducing into a translation from the *Anthology* (Leonidas, 57.), "heave the anchors and cut the cables," I found that the two operations were inconsistent, there being no cutting of cables when there is time to weigh anchor, nor is there any other operation in setting sail to which *ελευσαιο χυαα*, *i. e.*, "let loose the cables," is applicable. Talbot (who is a great yachtman) said that the best description of naval movements he had ever read was that of St. Paul's, Acts xxvii. The casting out of four anchors, (which, Fielding said, always astonished the *middies* when it was read) suits exactly the sort of boats, according to Talbot, that are still used in those seas; Maltese galliots, I think he called them. Chippenham; ball in the evening.

28th. Home to Sloperon.

30th. The annual Bowood dance. Had all the little Napiers and Ella Houlton to lodge with us on the occasion. The whole party enjoyed themselves very much, and the Lansdownes' carriage, as usual, took us and brought us back; not me, however, as, by Lady Lansdowne's desire, I slept at Bowood, and remained the two following days. Had told Lord L., the night of the dance, that I could not remain to sleep; and, on seeing me next morning at the breakfast table, he said I was like that class of persons in London whom Colquhoun mentions, who, when they rise in the morning, have not the least idea of where they are to sleep at night.

* Vicomte Chabot of Templeton, Ireland.

1832.

JANUARY 1st. Both days at Bowood.

2nd. Home after breakfast.

3rd. Off to Houlton's, Bessy, myself, and the two boys; their carriage took us on from Melksham.

4th. Napier in the morning; walked with him to Freshford. On mentioning to him what Lord Valletort told me of the Duke of Wellington, saying, "Never put myself wrong with the army," Napier said that the occasion on which the Duke used this expression was a mistake he had made in promoting an officer, and praising him in his despatches for some service that had really been performed by my Bath friend, Colonel —. It was when D—, expressing his gratitude for the promotion, and his hope that he should be allowed to keep it, added his desire also that the Duke would do justice to —, that the Duke replied in those words, "No, —," &c. &c. Some neighbours to dinner; music in the evening.

5th. Tried to read a book in the morning; dreadful idleness. Joy and his new wife to dinner; music.

6th. Fielding and Horatia to dinner; music.

7th. Returned home by Bath; borrowed some books from Upham; arrived at Sloper-ton at eight in the evening.

9th. To Fielding's to meet the Valletorts; the Houltons there also; Isabella's guitar in the evening delightful. Slept there. In talking of some of Lanark Owen's speeches, &c., Talbot said, that though he builds in parallelograms, he argues in circles.

10th. Walked home early for a little work. In walking home composed some verses on Lady Valletort, but did not write them down. She had asked me to write something in a copy of the "Irish Melodies" Bessy had given her as a wedding present. All this idling ruinous to me. Returned to Lacock to dinner; conversation, music, &c., all agreeable. An invitation this morning for Bessy and me to dine at Bowood on Thursday; Bessy declined.

11th. Home after breakfast.

12th. To Bowood to dinner; taken by Scott and Brabant (the latter's first appearance at Bowood). Company, besides ourselves, John Starkey, the Fieldings, and Valletort. In

speaking of Lord Erskine, and his keeping the first guinea he had ever received in his profession enshrined in a little case, into which he used sometimes to peep at it, Lord Lansdowne told of his having dined one day with Lord Erskine, just after his recovering from some complaint, of which he had been cured by two leeches; his launching out in praise of those leeches, and at last starting up and ringing the bell, saying, "I'll show them to you;" the leeches then brought up, in a bottle, and sent round the table with the wine. "I call one of them," said Lord Erskine, "Cline, and the other Home."* The manner in which Lord Lansdowne imitated Lord Grenville (who was one of the guests) putting on his spectacles when the leeches came to him, looking gravely into the bottle, and then as gravely passing it on, was highly comical.

14th. Met Lord Lansdowne riding with Lady Louisa and Henry: said he was to be off to town on Monday, and asked me to come over to luncheon to-morrow; mentioning that if I chose to stay for chapel, I should hear Lady Louisa, for the first time, perform the part of organist, Combe being ill.

15th. Went to Bowood, and stayed prayers. Lord L. mentioned at luncheon the saying of the old proud Lord Abercorn on somebody remarking how well his trees grew, "Sir, they have nothing else to do." Lord L. walked part of the way home with me: some talk about the prospects of the ministry in carrying Reform, &c. &c., which gave me but ill auguries of what is coming. He himself, evidently averse to the creation of new peers, seemed to contemplate, among the possible results, the resignation of the ministry: then the question whether this would not produce serious disturbance? Scotland the quarter from which those who were best acquainted with it, apprehend, he said, the greatest mischief in the event of another failure of the question. Abercrombie, in particular, writes the most urgent letters on the subject.

16th to 31st. Nothing remarkable. Talking of letters received lately, forgot to mention two from Mr. E. L. Bulwer, endeavouring to press me into the service of the "New Monthly," of which he has become editor; highly flattering: "Something like those exquisite *mor-*

* The great surgeons of the day, Mr. Cline and Sir Everard Home.—Ed.

ceaux I gave to 'The Times;' "Name my own terms," &c.

February 1st. The Joys offered us tickets for a great fancy ball at Chippenham; but Bessy, after a good deal of consideration, both at the expense of providing a dress and the formidableness of Derry Hill at night, gave up all thoughts of it. The Joys, however, returned to the charge, and removed the objection of Derry Hill by inviting us to their house, while Lady Elizabeth Fielding facilitated the toilette part by offering the choice of a whole room full of costumes, which Lady Valletort used to dress her sister in to draw from. Bessy, however, still declined, and, as it turned out, a bad attack of influenza would have, at all events, prevented her from going. That Joy, however, might not have all his kind trouble in vain, I consented to go myself; and a very pretty thing the ball happened to be; some of the dresses, particularly those of the Houltons, as Indian slaves, very picturesque, &c. &c. Supper and all exceedingly well managed; got back to Joy's about three o'clock.

2nd. The Joys wished me to stay over to-day, but I was anxious to get home, and Miss Joy took me as far as Spye Park, where Bessy slept last night: dined there, and walked home at night.

3rd, &c. For the rest of this month remained at home and at work; interrupted only by an attack of influenza, which a good deal weakened and deranged me. The verses I had composed on Lady Valletort, walking home one morning from Lacock, remained in my memory, floating in indistinct fragments, for some weeks, during which time I was too busy about other things to write them down. From time to time I took a look, as it were, into my memory to see if they were still there: at last I copied them out, and took them over to Lacock; where I found the whole party (the Valletorts excepted, who had gone to town for the opening of Parliament), with the addition of Lady Lansdowne, who had come over to luncheon: read the verses to them; poor Lady Elizabeth very much affected, and exclaimed, when I had finished, "And I have lost all this!" Fielding and Horatia both crying, Lady Lansdowne said, "You have indeed praised her to our hearts' content, and it was not easy to do that."

8th to 23rd. Forgot to mention one of the anecdotes Lord Valletort told about the present King, highly to his credit; at the time he was dismissed from (or at least, got a hint to resign) his office of First Lord of the Admiralty, under the Duke of Wellington, the latter, in their final interview on the subject, was taking his formal leave, when the Duke of Clarence, holding out his hand, said, "No, no, this must not be; the Prime Minister and the First Lord may misunderstand each other, but this should make no difference between the Duke of Wellington and the Duke of Clarence;" at the same time shaking the Duke cordially by the hand. Found that from my resources through the Longmans being stopped (by their taking on them my debt to Murray), I could not get through with my little bills without applying to Rogers; almost my last twenty pounds (25*l.* indeed this time) having gone to pay my mother's half-yearly rent. Accordingly wrote to him that I should draw upon him for 200*l.*: and he most kindly answered, "for three times the sum," if I wanted it; and remitted me the 200*l.* It is now, as I told him in my letter, about six-and-twenty years since he most seasonably performed a similar service for me (lending me 500*l.* to pay Carpenter, which I repaid him out of my "Lalla Rookh" money); and when I now look back upon the interval since then, it appears to me a marvel (notwithstanding all my "*aurea carmina*") how I have managed to get on without recurring either to him or any one else (except in one single instance) for the same sort of assistance.

24th. Was surprised by a letter from Murray, asking whether I could not furnish him with an essay on Byron's poetical character, to be prefixed to his new edition, so as to make *his* the only genuine one; adding, that on my compliance with his request, we should then talk of terms. Though I was determined to do nothing of the sort, thought it was as well to acquaint the Longmans with his proposal.

Note.—February, 1840. Notwithstanding this and some other little grumblings of mine, I look back upon Murray's conduct towards me, upon the whole, as most liberal and creditable.

26. An answer from the Longmans, to say that they felt delicate in advising me, as they knew how anxious their partners in [Lard-

ner's] Cyclopædia were that I should as soon as possible complete my promised "History of Ireland." Wrote to Murray, saying that I must decline his proposal, being occupied with other works; adding, that in *any* case I should not have liked to undertake what he proposed, as an essay could be little else than a *rifaccimento* of the criticisms in the "Edinburgh" and "Quarterly;" and even if I could bring myself to write such a thing, I questioned whether any one could be brought to read it. The plan I had always thought of was to write a sort of running commentary on Byron's works; which would have left me free to introduce anecdotes, quotations, and all such *touch-and-go* things as the formality of an essay would not admit of, but which would be far better than the most elaborate essay that could be furnished.

28th, 29th. Another letter from the illustrious John Murray, returning to the charge, saying that he sees I *can* do, without much trouble, the very thing he wishes, and that he shall have great satisfaction in giving me 500 guineas for the task; the very sum he shrunk from some months since. He alleges, indeed, as an excuse for his conduct at that time, that he was a good deal embarrassed by the failure of some houses he was connected with, and was fearful he should not be able to remunerate me as I deserved; but that now, the success of this edition of Byron being established, he is very happy to, &c. &c. The fact is, I have been able to trace the progress of his mind all along through the changes of his advertisements. Somebody having, most likely, told him (for he is always a slave of his last adviser) that the "Life" was the most ticklish part of the whole undertaking (families not likely to admit it, &c. &c.), he gave as little prominence to this part of the book as possible; putting the "Works of Lord Byron" in capitals at the head, and omitting my name in the advertisements altogether: gradually, however, I saw the "Life" and name taking a respectable station in the announcement; at least my name was rather barefacedly put forward, as if I was the editor of the whole; and latterly the heading of "Works of Lord Byron" has been exchanged in some advertisements for "Life, &c. &c., by Thomas Moore." Wrote a civil and indeed friendly letter to him (for after all I have had several

kindnesses at his hands), and expressed regret that it was not possible for me to comply with his proposal.

March 1st to 24th. *Apropos* of this, have been working away hard and fast at my "theology," which amuses me exceedingly; though I fear it will be dull to others. To write lively on such a subject would be dangerous, and would indeed defeat my object. Have had a letter from Edinburgh, for which I paid 3s. 8d. postage, signed "Robin Roughhead," full of dull Scotch doggrel, "Oh, ho, Tommy Moore," &c. &c. This is too provoking. Meant to have timed my visit to town (the chief object of which is the settlement of my accounts with Power), so as to be in town to attend the St. Patrick's dinner; and Bessy was to have gone up with me; but finding that Tom could not, according to the Charter House rules, be let out during Lent, she gave up the project; and I deferred till after the 25th (our marriage day), which is always a happy celebration with us.

I find, by the bye, that I have omitted attending to a circumstance which for some time gave us both great uneasiness; and that was a fancy which our dear Tom had long had in his head, but which lately took a more serious and *insisting* shape, to be made a sailor of. Finding that his mind was beginning to dwell upon this whim, I thought it right at last to interpose a little serious authority, and wrote him a letter to that purport; which produced all the good effect I could desire. Nothing could be more dutiful, or, at the same time, more manly than the manner in which the dear little fellow gave up his fancy.

Sent a short squib to "The Times" about Lord Roden, which seems to have had some effect. The "Freeman's Journal," in copying it, says, "It is not difficult to tell from whose 'Roman' hand this piece of lively satire comes." Lord Kerry down for a few days, which he passed at Phipps's; asked me to meet him at dinner, but went in the evening and had a good deal of town news from him. Asked me about the above squib, which he said I got the credit of in London.

25th. Preparing to start for town to-morrow. My only regret at not having gone yesterday is, that I should have liked to have attended the Duke of Sussex's Royal Society party last night, for which he was civil enough to send

me a card down here ; but a bumper after dinner to-day to the 25th of March. 1811 (twenty-one years since), will be a far better thing.

26th. Off in the York House coach for town. Alone a good part of the way ; read Pascal's "Lettres Provinciales." Went to the Fieldings', who have kindly offered to lodge me.

27th. Breakfasted at R.'s ; found there Barry Cornwall and Charles Murray. Proctor's stories of Charles Lamb. His excluding from his library the works of Robertson, Hume, Gibbon, &c. and substituting for them the heroes of the "Dunciad," of whose writings he has made a collection. His saying to —, in his odd, stammering way, on —'s making some remark, "Johnson has said worse things than that ;" then after a short pause, "and better." R.'s story of the parson who was called upon suddenly to preach to some invalid establishment ; poor maimed creatures, hardly one of them able to get over a stile ; and the only sermon he happened to have with him, and which he preached, was one against *foreign travel*. Grattan's saying to a lady, who asked him what was the subject of some letter he was reading, "It is a secret." "Well, but tell it now." "No ; I would trust my life in your hands, but not a secret."

Went to Power's. Then to the Longmans ; said that the sale of my "Lord Edward" was going on steadily ; talked of Murray's late conduct to me. Had called upon Corry, on my way, and brought him with me. Fixed, he and I, to dine with the Longmans on Thursday. To Brookes's, where I found Sterling, of "The Times," who has been lately admitted a member. Strange enough this, and done by Lord Duncannon. Dined at Fielding's ; and then to the Opera ; where my name has been placed on the free list by my countryman, the new manager. Opera changed from *La Vestale* (the overture of which I went to hear) to the *Mosé*. House empty and cold. Came away, and went to Brookes's to hear politics instead.

28th. Called upon Corry ; and he and his nephew accompanied me to the Charter House to see Tom, and have him out ; but Dr. Russell not being at home, this was impossible. The dear little fellow quite well and rosy. From thence to Barnes, who was ill in bed ; left word for him to come and dine at Longmans' with us on Friday. To Mrs. Manners

Sutton, whom we found at home. She mentioned a rumour that Lord Durham was *out*, founded, of course, on the supposed difference between him and Lord Grey. Promised to dine with her on Sunday. To Brookes's. Mentioned to Lord Dover the rumour of Durham being out. "No," he said ; "not out, though he was very near it."

* * * Dined with Rogers ; company, Luttrell, Kenny, C. Murray, and R.'s sister and niece. Was to have dined to meet the Valletorts at Fielding's, but had got engaged with Rogers. Luttrell quoted *à propos* to something from the "Trip to Scarborough : " "If he gives me 500*l.* to buy pins, what will he give me to buy petticoats ?" Stories of instinct in animals, carrier pigeons, &c. "I am told," says Luttrell, "a man who buys a flock of Welsh sheep never sees them again ; they're all off to Carnarvonshire that night." Story of a man putting a crown piece under a stone, and sending a dog back a great distance to fetch it ; delay of the dog ; returned at last with the crown in a purse. A man had seen him turning up the stone, and took the piece from him ; but the dog saw him put it in his purse, and never left him till he had it back again. Story of the man in the Highlands who buried his wife, and, as was the custom, read the funeral service over her himself ; the same night as he was sitting lonely by his fire, heard a knock. "That's Mary's knock ; go and open the door." His opening it himself, and finding it *was* his wife ; who had been brought to life (according to the old story) by the sexton endeavouring to cut the ring off her finger.

29th. Breakfasted at home. Copied out the lost verses for Lady Valletort, and took them to her. Called at the Lansdownes' and saw them ; had asked me to dinner to-morrow to meet Lord Plunket, but I had engaged myself already to Lord Essex : visited Kenny in his high attic regions. * * * Dined at Longman's ; Barnes grown most perilously corpulent. On putting a large bludgeon, which he brought with him, in the corner, he said, "There's my Conservative stick ;" and added, "They have threatened to knock me on the head going over the bridge." "They !" I exclaimed ; "who are *they* ?" not knowing whether it was Greyites or ultras that had menaced him. "The people of the Rotunda," he answered ; "I have

had mobs of them in the Square." Company; besides Corry, his nephew and myself, McCulloch and Barnes. Sat drinking port till eleven o'clock, Barnes owning that he "loved wine." On my mentioning what Charles Lamb said, told a similar sort of saying of his,—“You have no mock modesty about *you*, nor real either.”

Home to dress, and got to Lansdowne House about twenty minutes after twelve; and entered one door just as Orloff, the newly-arrived lion, was disappearing through the other. * * * Found Sydney Smith holding forth to a laughing circle on the subject of tithes and the *Tripartite* division: “I am sorry to tell you,” said he, “that the great historian Hallam has declared himself in favour of the *Tripartite*, and contends that it was so in the reign of King Fiddlefred: but we of the Church (continued Sydney, slapping his breast mock heroically) say, a fig for King Fiddlefred: we will keep our tithes to ourselves.”

30th. Breakfasted with Rogers, to meet Washington Irving, who is about to start for America; glad to get a glimpse of him before his flight.

Went with Irving to call upon Mr. Van Buren, the American ambassador, who has been recalled: received me very graciously; and, in the short conversation I had with him, gave me the idea of a well-bred and intelligent man. In speaking of poor Lord Dudley, whose melancholy state is now so much the topic of conversation; his large dinners, the manner he treats his guests, never speaking to them, but sitting in a sort of stupor, or reading to himself “Hume’s History of England” (as he did one day Lord Lansdowne dined with him)—I remarked it showed what rank and station could do in England, when a man in such a state was still able to bring the best company about him; on which Van Buren said, “If there is any thing which rank and station cannot do in England, I have not found it out.” He then added (what struck me a good deal, both as coming from a republican and as agreeing perfectly with my own opinion), “But still I must say that rank and station in England deserves (as far as *society* goes) the value set upon it; for I have found that the higher one rises in the atmosphere the purer the tone of society is.” Told him how much this coincided with the whole of

my own experience; that such an opinion, however, coming from a person like myself, who lived with that class without naturally belonging to them, was apt to be regarded with suspicion by my own equals, who were naturally inclined to say, “Oh yes, he is flattered by living with the great, and therefore flatters them in this way in return.” I was glad to be backed in my opinion by such an authority as his, coming as he did free from all our little prepossessions and ambitions, and being in this respect so much more qualified to form an impartial judgment. He expressed at the same time strong disgust at the perpetual struggle towards this higher region that was visible in those below it; all trying to get above their own sphere, and sacrificing comfort and temper in the ineffectual effort. I agreed with him, and said it was like the exercise of the treadmill; perpetual climbing without ever mounting. It was indeed the absence of this sort of ambitious effort that gave the upper classes so much more repose of manner, and made them accordingly so much better company.

Dined at Lord Essex’s; good deal of talk about politics: ventured to maintain the opinion that the cause of liberty has always (at least hitherto) suffered more than it gained by the Whigs being in power: forced as they are while in office to suspend if not relinquish the principles they held while *out*; and the Tories, to do them justice, seldom allowing even exclusion to alter theirs. The consequence is, that the Whig principle, unsupported on either side, remains in abeyance till some good chance turns its champions *out* again; even a boon such as the Whigs are now giving the people would have come better, at least with more safety, from Tories. In the first place it would have been dealt out with a reluctant hand, which would not have let the line run so rapidly through the fingers as it is doing at present, when the government and the people are both on one side; it is, as the saying is, “too much of a good thing.” There is no counterpoise; all are pulling one way; and the consequence is, what we are but too likely to witness. It is in human nature, too, that favours from an opponent should have something sweeter and more piquant in them than when dispensed by a friend. If conceded graciously, gratitude is of course the natural consequence; if extorted, generous feelings succeed as natu-

rally to triumph. It was at once the grace and strength of the Emancipation Bill that it should come from the hands of Wellington. R. remarked to-day that there were three great men in three different arts who all died at the age of thirty-seven; Raphael, Mozart, and Byron.

31st. Breakfasted at home; the Fieldings off to Lacock; Talbot alone remaining. Went to Power's to beg him to send for Tom to the Charter House; from thence to Evans's to look over a copy of Irenæus (Grabe's edition) which he had procured for me. Back to Power's to meet Bishop for our musical arrangements: dined there, Tom and I, and off in the evening to the Olympic, where we were much amused; young Lord Duncan sitting behind me. In our way out was addressed with much cordiality by a lady whom at first I did not recognise, but who proved to be Mrs. Douglas, my old friend the admiral's wife; told me her address. Went to Power's, where I left Tom for the night after having supped.

April 1st. Have always intended to go some time to the Warwick Street Chapel during my visit to town, the music there is so good; but something has always prevented me. Reserved this morning for the purpose; breakfasted at Brookes's, and went: a mass of Haydn's performed; and being alone, I had my full enjoyment of it. My mind being just now full of Catholic reading, I felt myself transported back to the days of the St. Ambroses and St. Chrysostoms, when Christianity was yet in the first glow and enthusiasm of its triumph; and while the Sanctus was singing, "that dread moment," as St. Cyril calls it, found my eyes full of tears. What will not music make one feel and believe? On coming out, met Howard, who begged that, whenever I came again, I should make use of his pew.

Went to Rogers; talked politics. * * *

Had visits to pay, and R. said he would walk with me. In our various talk, he remarked what amusing memoirs I might write of my own life; told him I had long anticipated doing so, as a provision for those I should leave behind me: and if I could but once make a beginning, I should be sure, I thought, to go on with it, as I intended to take no pains with the style, but let it run *à plume courante*, like a letter. He said that his sister admired my letters very much; thought them so well and

shortly expressed. This rather a surprise to me, who have never had a very good opinion of my own powers of letter-writing. Met Lord Aberdeen in the park, and had some conversation with him about poor Lord Dudley, whose reconciliation dinner to Lady Holland takes place to-day. People thought something awful was going to happen to him, when, after such a long and obstinate holding out, he himself proposed terms of pacification in that quarter. Luttrell, too, whom he has for some time had some grudge against, is to be also one of the smokers of the calumet to-day. Made my visits to Mrs. Mason, Mrs. Shelley (whom we found at home), and, lastly, Admiral Douglas, where R. left me. To Brookes's, where George Ponsonby told me he was coming to meet me at dinner at Sterling's on Saturday next; odd enough this, Sterling having so generally the reputation (and I think with truth) of being the writer of the late bitter articles against Lord Grey. Ponsonby, however, I found, thinks they are *not* his. Shiel asked me anxiously whether I had made up my mind about Limerick, as he knew that the party there for bringing me in were seriously bent on it; but that if I did not bestir myself in time, some other candidate who was on the spot might pop in and have the start of me. Dined at the Speaker's: company, a Mr. and Mrs. Pemberton, ditto Kitcheners, William Bankes, and one or two more. The Speaker, as usual, good-humoured and agreeable. Bankes's story of the little girl in the street stopping with awe and amazement, on seeing a chariot stop at a door opposite, in which there were three or four skeletons seated in various fantastic attitudes, with their laps full of livers and lights. It happened to be the day on which the sale of the great surgeon Heavside's effects took place; and this was a coach full of his anatomical preparations going to the auction-room. Jekyll's saying, when it was mentioned that the Russians during their stay in England eat up great quantities of tallow candles, that it was a species of food "bad for the liver, but good for the lights." The Speaker said, that in the riots at Wigan this year, the mob, in plundering the house of their member, got possession of his will, and read it aloud at the market cross, whereby several near and dear relations, having found out that they were entirely cut off in his will,

there had been nothing but dissension in the family ever since. Went to Mrs. Lytton Bulwer's assembly, and found such a collection as is seldom brought together; there was young Disraeli, and Rammohun Roy, and Lord Mulgrave, and Mrs. Leigh (Lord Byron's sister), and Goelwin. Mrs. Leigh asked me, "Does Lord Mulgrave's look, when he laughs, remind you of somebody?" I said, it did a little.

2nd. Breakfasted at Brookes's: went to the printer's with my MS., and left it for Simmons to calculate how many pages it would make in the printing. Went to the Longmans': in talking of this work I am about, they said, "But when are we to have a poem from you?" Asked them, did they really think a poem would have any chance of success now, when the public had been so glutted with rhymes and rhymers? "From you we really think it would," was their answer, much to my surprise. Dined at Lord Lansdowne's: company, Lord Auckland, Macaulay, Rogers, Schlegel, Charles Murray, &c. Rogers seated next Schlegel, and suffering manifest agony from the German's loud voice and unnecessary use of it. Got placed between Lady Lansdowne and Macaulay very agreeably. In quoting Voltaire's "*Superflu, chose si nécessaire*," I remarked that it had been suggested, I thought, by a passage in Pascal's "*Lettres Provinciales*;" and Macaulay agreed with me, and (remembering, as he does everything) repeated the passage.

Had some talk with Schlegel after dinner; asked me, if a man conscientiously, and without any intentional levity, published a book in England expressive of his disbelief in the Scriptures, and giving the reasons of his disbelief, how such a book would be received? Answered, that as to the *book*, I didn't know, but I knew well how the *man* would be received; and I should not like to be in his place. In speaking of Pope, whom I, of course, praised, but whom he seemed not to have much taste for, he exclaimed, "Yes, to be sure, there are some fine things in him; that passage, for instance, 'Upon her neck a sparkling cross she wore, charming!'" So much for the German's appreciation of Pope. Intimated that Goethe was jealous of him in consequence of some Indian poem that he (Schlegel) wrote or translated. Rogers and I in doubt whether we should go to Lady Grey's or Lord Burghersh's

music; decided for the latter. Told me, that on his asking Schlegel, in allusion to Goethe's death, "Are there any German poets now left?" Schlegel blurted out, "*I am a German poet*;" throwing his arms open pompously as he said it. Lord Lansdowne, by the bye, told me a curious mistake Charles Grant had made on his introducing Schlegel to him. Lord L. had told the latter beforehand, that Charles G. was very much versed in Indian learning; and the first thing Schlegel said to him when they were presented to each other was, "*On m'a dit monsieur, que vous vous occupez de la littérature Sanscrite*." "*Mais toute l'Europe sait cela*," answered Grant; thinking that Schlegel had said he was himself so occupied.

The music at Lord Burghersh's chiefly his own: overheard the Duke of Wellington and Lord Lyndhurst speaking about poor Lord Dudley, who was not able to meet his dinner guests yesterday, and who was now, as I could learn from them, quite gone. "Something, of course, will be done immediately," said the Duke, "about his property; and I suppose the Chancellor will look to-morrow to the custody of his person." Exchanged a few words with the Duke about the singing; though I doubt much whether he knows who I am. Since he was Secretary in Ireland, when I dined with him at his own table, I have met him very little in society. Came away with the Lansdownes, who brought me as far as L. House. Heard an anecdote (this morning I think) from Robinson, which is interesting, as showing, what I have never doubted, that poetry is a far more matter-of-fact thing than your people, who are only matter-of-fact, can understand or allow. Goethe told Robinson that his description of the Carnival at Rome, which is accounted one of the most delightful of his writings, had its origin in the following manner. Goethe's lodgings were on the Corso, and being solitary and *ennuyé*, he amused himself by taking notes exactly of all that passed before his eyes during the Carnival; and from those matter-of-fact notes, without any addition from fancy, he afterwards composed his description. Mentioned this to Schlegel to-day, and he confirmed the truth of it.

3rd. Breakfasted with Rogers: company, Macaulay, Luttrell, Lord Kerry, and Wishaw.

* * * Some strong politics talked, condemning Lord Grey's hesitation to make peers. Talking of success in college; how far it is a promise of future eminence. A number of persons mentioned, now distinguishing themselves (particularly in the law), who carried off honours at the university. Lord Grey distinguished at college. Anecdote of his being punished for knocking a man down in a row. Had been with some other young fellows to hear a speech of Burke's (where?), and was reciting the speech through the streets drunk. His eloquent apology before the college authorities when brought up for his offence, extorting from his judge the expression, "*Melius sic penituisse quam non errasse.*" Luttrell's story of a tailor who used to be seen attending the Greek lectures constantly; and when some one noticed it to him as odd, the tailor saying modestly, that he knew too well what became his station to intrude himself as an auditor on any of those subjects of which from his rank in life he must be supposed to be ignorant; but "really (he added) at a *Greek* lecture I think we are all pretty much on a par."

Dined at Lord Dover's (who had made me fix the day): company, Duke of Devonshire, the Mount-Charleses, the Morleys, the Vernons, Lord de Roos, and C. Greville. Sat next Greville. In speaking of Ireland, asked me had I seen that my lines in *Rock*—"As long as Popish spade and scythe," &c.—were prefixed the other day to a violent petition on the subject of tithes? Mentioned also, that the first time he ever heard those verses was from Lord Manners (then Chancellor of Ireland), who repeated them to him, as well on account of their cleverness as of (what he was pleased to call) their mischievousness. After some conversation with Lady Morley, went to the Opera. Visited the Duchesse Cannizzaro, and found her with her newly-returned husband. Went from her to Lady Mansfield's box, where I remained for some time talking with Lady Caroline; then home.

5th. Breakfasted at the Literary Union—my first repast at this club, where I have been a long time an honorary member,—and shall make more use of it now that I have quitted the Athenæum. Found Lardner, whom I had asked to meet me there; talked over my unfortunate history, not a line of which is writ-

ten yet; said he should not want it till about November, and he will be lucky if he gets it about June.

Went to call on Lord John Russell, who was at Woburn on my first arrival; only heard of his return from Lady William the night before. Found him at home, and as kind as ever. In the course of our conversation asked me how I came to write such a letter as I did some time since to Lord Francis Gower, saying of the Reform Bill, that it was a bill quite after my own taste, but that I was a little surprised at my friends the Whigs bringing in a measure of so evidently a republican tendency. Told him I had no recollection of using those expressions, but it was not impossible that I might have said something like it; that, in fact, I had been always too much accustomed to speak my mind to be a very *prudent* friend of people in power, and that there was nothing I so constantly congratulated myself upon as living quietly the greatest part of my time in the country, where I could do no harm by my free speaking or thinking to any one. I said, "You yourself very well know what my opinion of this bill has been from the very first." "Yes," he answered; "you told me, I recollect, in one of your letters, that you were in heart and feeling with us, but in *opinion* with the Tories*"; but, I was sorry you wrote any thing of this nature to Lord Francis, for he showed it about, and the Tories were all delighted with it." Told him he might talk of my *Παρηγοια*, but the worst things I have heard said about the ministry since I came to town were from some of their own troops. (I alluded to Macaulay's complaining the other day of their backwardness and timidity; of their being displeased, for instance, with the boldness of Hobhouse's speech, while Macaulay and all those on the back rows were delighted with it, &c. &c.) He said this was very true, and had sprung up but lately, as during the beginning of their career they had nothing but cheers and eulogies from their supporters. Promised to breakfast with him on Saturday.

Called upon Mrs. Norton; found her preparing to go to Hayter's, who is painting a

* What I meant by this was, that though the bill was quite in consonance with my own political feelings and principles, yet in the view of the consequences to which it must ultimately lead (that of *democratizing* our whole system), I could not but agree with the Tories.

picture of her; and offered to walk with her. Had accordingly a very brisk and agreeable walk across the two parks, and took her in the highest bloom of beauty to Hayter, who said he wished that some one would always put her through this process before she sat to him. Hayter's picture promises well. Happening to mention that almost everything I wrote was composed in my garden or the fields, "One would guess that of your poetry," said Mrs. Norton; "it quite *smells* of them." Left her at Hayter's, and went to look for the American Secretary of Legation, through whom I wished to send a scrap of Byron's writing which I promised to Van Buren, but could not find him. Dined at Admiral Douglas's: Hinchliffe the only one of the party I had ever met before, but almost all were West Indians; and for a wonder Reform was not mentioned during the day, nothing being talked of but the Orders in Council, the last meeting at Antigua, Mr. Somebody's excellent speech, &c. &c. Came away early.

5th. Breakfasted at home with Fielding. To Power's: have been urging him for my account; indeed, had written before I came up to town to say that one of the chief objects of my coming was to see how our long pending accounts stood, but he seems nervous and shy upon the subject. Called at Jeffrey's; saw Mrs. J., and bid her tell Jeffrey to meet me at Lord John's to-morrow morning.

Dined at Lord Essex's to meet Miss Stephens: company, besides her niece, Sharp and his ward, Rogers and his sister, Woolridge and Luttrell. Singing in the evening; duets between Miss Stephens and her sister; Sharpe's ward also sung, and so, of course, did I. Miss Stephens and her niece *evidently*, I think, pleased with my singing. Rogers and I walked home together, and the difference there is between him thus *tête-à-tête* and when in society was never more striking; he both amused himself and me, and laughed at something I said like a boy.

6th. Breakfasted at Lord John's: company, Lady Hardy and one of her daughters, Lord William, Sydney Smyth, and Luttrell: Sydney delightful. When the horse guards were passing the windows, said to Lord W., "I suppose now you must feel the same in looking at those that I do at looking at a congregation." Talking of the feelings people must have on

going into battle, Lord William appealed to. Said it was, at first, always a very anxious and awful feeling, but soon went off. I mentioned my having been on board a frigate when she was cleared for action; and Luttrell said he had been in the same situation aboard a Post Office packet, and had a musket put into his hand. This set Sydney off on the ingloriousness of such a combat; drawing a penny-post cutlass, and crying, "Freeling for ever!" Spoke of the knowledge sailors had of ships at a great distance; took them off, saying, with a telescope to the eye, "Damn her, she's the 'Delight' laden with tallow."

Sydney highly comical about Sir Henry Halford; his rout pill, to carry a lady over the night; his parliamentary pill, &c. Never shakes any one by the hand; seizes always the wrist.

Told of Leslie, the Scotch philosopher, once complaining to him that Jeffrey had "damned the North Pole." Leslie had called upon Jeffrey just as the latter was going out riding to explain some point (in an article for the "Edinburgh Review," I believe) concerning the North Pole; and Jeffrey, who was in a hurry, exclaimed impatiently, as he rode off, "O damn the North Pole!" This Leslie complained of to Sydney; who entered gravely into his feelings, and told him in confidence, that he himself had once heard Jeffrey "speak disrespectfully of the Equator." Left Lord John's with Sydney and Luttrell; and when we got to Cockspur Street (having laughed all the way) we were all three seized with such convulsions of cachinnation at something (I forget what) which Sydney said, that we were obliged to separate, and reel each his own way with the fit; I thought if any one that knew us happened to be looking, how it would amuse them. Lord John, by the bye, had asked me to meet them at dinner next Tuesday, but I shall then be at Sloperton. Turned back with Sydney to call at the Duke of Northumberland's: left our cards. Told me that he had been knocked down by a coach the other day in crossing the street, and was nearly run over; and that, knowing how much of Lord Grey's patronage had accrued from accidents happening to clergymen, he found himself saying as he came down, "There's a vacancy."

Dined at Sterling's: company, Lord Plunket, Mrs Archdeacon Singleton, Shiel, G. Pon-

sonby (who took me), Colonel Shaw, and Mrs. A., next whom I got seated; still a very handsome woman. A good deal of talk with her and Plunket, who sat at the other side of her. In speaking of the Duke of Wellington, after the ladies left us, Lord P. mentioned having been on a committee of the Dublin House of Commons with him in 1791 (I think), the case being some petition against Hutchinson of the College: Lord E. Fitzgerald was, he said, also on the same committee. The Duke was full of tricks; he and the other aide-de-camp always at some mischief or another. * * * On Lord P.'s mentioning some fine reply or extempore speech made by Grattan, Shiel sharply asked, "Could Grattan speak extempore?" Shiel himself is beginning, as he told me the other day, to interweave occasionally extempore bits in his speeches, which have hitherto been all prepared elaborately and verbally. Finds that he can manage this, and that his speeches are, of course, all the more effective for it. This, in fact, the great secret of public speaking: to prepare well the main points, and then to be able to fill up without much *disparate* as you go on with matter rising out of the occasion; the "*callida junctura*" is the difficulty.

During dinner a good deal of talk with Mrs. A. about German literature, her hobby. Mentioned a love song of Goethe's, and gave the literal English of it; which, she said, might be made a good deal of in my hands. Appeared to me (in her translation, at least) the tritest stuff possible. The only words in which there was anything like originality or nature were as follows: "It is for him alone I walk out of the door; it is for him alone I look out of the window." But thus are people deceived by the sound and the mystery of a language foreign to them, the novelty of the words, the pride of raising the veil and discovering the "*no meaning*" under them! Paid back her brass with gold by quoting some of the beautiful ballad (of Logan's, I believe), "His mother from the window looked, with all the longing of a mother, &c."—Talked of the state of religion in Germany. A deep religious feeling, she said, everywhere prevalent, and yet the freest toleration for the most bold and infidel opinions. This, I remarked, was perhaps the very reverse of what existed in England, where a most worldly indifference prevailed as to real religion, while the slightest

whisper of scepticism was sure to raise an outcry against him who dared to breathe it. She mentioned with enthusiastic envy some person who had the good luck to meet (all together at some evening assembly) Goethe, Herder, Schiller, and Wieland; a most illustrious group certainly. Either she or Plunket cited Berkeley as one of the purest writers of England, and were astonished at the instance to the contrary which I produced in his use of the word "embarrass" as a noun. Dryden, too, who may also be counted one of the best writers of good English, uses "painture" for painting; to "*falsify* a shield," meaning to break it, &c. &c.

7th. Meant to have gone to Warwick Street Chapel, but happening to mention it to Rogers he said, if I would breakfast with him, he would accompany me thither. Foresaw that this would be fatal to my plans: accordingly, when I went found that he had asked Jeffrey to meet me; a good meeting at all times, but I had now set my heart upon the music, and did not like being disappointed. Was, however, soon reconciled by the pleasure of seeing Jeffrey, who is one of my most especial favourites. In talking of Allen, mentioned that he once had a sort of Frankenstein fancy for producing life out of Blood; and used to have a large tub of blood which he watched over like a wizard as it became (or as he thought it became) vascular and "instinct with life:" this, of course, a joke. Rogers produced a letter of Allen's, which he had just received, containing remarks on a late work of the American Channing, which R. had lent him. Allen's remarks, though written off *à plume courante*, very clever; showed how ignorant Channing was of the English divines, and that he criticised them evidently without having read them. His absurdity in classing Heber with Berkeley! Talked of Berkeley; his powerfully philosophic mind, and the sort of form in which he conveyed his thoughts (that of dialogue) being characteristic of such a mind; sifting both sides and leaving nothing *unenforced* on either.

In talking of different races and the proportionate predominance of the father and mother in the mind, complexion, &c. of the progeny (the Mintos, for instance; some of whom are very fair, like one parent, and others almost black, like the other), Rogers mentioned an

observation of John Hunter's, that wherever there was but one boy with a number of sisters the boy was sure to be effeminate; and John Hunter used to give it as a proof of Homer's knowledge of human nature that he makes the cowardly youth, Dolon, in the night scene, "sole brother of five sisters."

Went to make calls, and to prepare for my departure to-morrow. Dined with Rogers: company, Lord Clifden, Sir J. Newport, Shiel, Barnes, and Luttrell. Sat next Barnes, to whom I gave some verses about the peerage which I had copied out in the morning, "A Letter from the Honourable Henry — to Lady Emma —." Begged me, in anything I might now write for him, to spare Croker; which, I told him, was an unnecessary caution, as Croker and I were old allies.* Conversation chiefly on Irish subjects. Sir John Newport mentioned some gross instances of corruption at the union. Shiel more than usual (at least more than I have ever seen) loud and ardent. Talked of Molyneux, who, it appears, was a great advocate for union with England, and has in his book some strong expressions on the subject. Left party early, and home to pack.

8th. Started at eight o'clock and arrived safely at the dear cottage.

From this period to the present day (June 14th) I have not had time to do more in the way of journalising than merely to copy out at full, in the foregoing pages, the pencil memorandums which I had made during my visit to town. In the course of the two months that have since passed, enough has happened both to embarrass and to afflict me. * * *

April 12th. A visit from a bookseller, Mr. Harding of Cornhill, who came down, by one of the night coaches, expressly for the purpose. Had called at Power's, to ask my address in town, but found I had started the day before; and thought it better to come myself, on the business he had with me, than write. His object was to get me to write a poem for him and have it illustrated in the manner of Rogers's Italy. Asked him, did he know what

an enormous sum Mr. R.'s book cost him? (7000*l*. I think Rogers told me, when I was last in town.) Said he was perfectly aware of this, and had made all his calculations on the subject, and had no doubt that a poem by me thus illustrated would pay him handsomely. I then put to him what the poem itself would cost; that I was accustomed to high prices; had received 3000 guineas from the Longmans for "Lalla Rookh," and so on. He answered that he was prepared for all this; that he should require for his purpose a poem but a third of the length of "Lalla Rookh," and would of course pay accordingly. I then told him that I was at present much occupied with other tasks, but would consider of the matter, and after having consulted with the Longmans, would let him know my decision. Pressed him to lunch, dine, &c., but the poor man was anxious to get back to his business after his (I fear) totally useless journey, and off he went. When I told Bessy, it amused her to think that, at the very moment when I was turning a thousand guineas from the door, she was just considering with much anxiety, whether she would go to the expense of five or six shillings for a fly to take her to Devizes to-morrow. * * *

14th. Went into Devizes (Bessy and I) to hear two Swiss singers, and dined at Hughes'.

17th. To Lacock, to dine with the Fielding's; only Kit Talbot; slept there.

21st. A visit from Lord Lansdowne, who had come down for a few days; was on foot, and I walked back with him a great part of the way. Conversation about the prospects of the Reform Bill; expressed his hope that there would be no necessity for a new creation of peers, to which step he seemed to have strong repugnance. Told him of the journal kept by Crabbe in one of his visits to London, which has been found among his papers, and which the son has sent me. But little of it, and, in general, mere details; but there were a few striking and characteristic bits.

24th. To Bowood to dinner; only themselves; very agreeable; slept there.

28th. To Fieldings' to meet Madlle. M. and Lord Lansdowne. In talking of the letters of Napoleon that remain, Madlle. M. mentioned that Montholon has heaps of notes in pencilling which Napoleon used to write to him from his chambers at St. Helena. In speaking

* To Moore it was unnecessary to address a request to spare a friend; if the request had been addressed to the other party, asking him to spare Moore, what would have been the result? Probably while Moore was alive, and able to wield his pen, it might have been successful; had Moore been dead, it would have served only to give an additional zest to the pleasure of safe malignity.—Ed.

of French readings, Lord L. told very lively of his being nailed one evening after a dinner at Benjamin Constant's to hear Benjamin read a novel; he (Lord L.) wanting to go somewhere else. Two long hours was he kept under this operation, seated next Madame Constant; when by good luck for him her favourite Tom cat, which had, contrary to custom, been excluded, on this occasion watched its opportunity of entrance, and made a sudden irruption into the room. "Instantly (says Lord Lansdowne), with an adroitness of which I could have hardly thought myself capable, I started up, as if indignant at the interruption, and seizing the cat in my arms, rushed out with him upon the landing-place, from whence I lost no time in escaping as fast as possible to the hall door." Slept at Lacock.

29th. After breakfast Fielding and Madlle. M. walked part of the way home with me. * * * In talking of the late Lord Hastings, she said that she had often heard her father mention a day he passed in company with the Comte d'Artois (Charles X.), Lord Hastings, and the Duc de Blacas; and his being so much struck, not only with the high-bred deportment of all three, but with the great resemblance they bore in their manners to each other. Power's accounts at last arrived; being busy, however, did not look into them till

May 1st. Glanced my eye hastily over the balance against me, and was somewhat startled by its amount; but on looking through some of the items saw such regularity and (as I thought) fairness in them, that I concluded all was right, and wrote to Power to say so, adding, in my simplicity, that I flattered myself never were accounts of so long a standing settled so smoothly and amicably as ours would be.

4th. Took the opportunity of a leisure moment to look more accurately over Power's accounts; and found, to my consternation, that they are anything but what I had supposed. * * * Wrote to him that in looking more accurately over his accounts I had found what *must*, I thought, be a mistake; namely, his charges against me during several years for the half (125*l.*) of an annuity which it appeared he paid to Mr. Bishop, and the *whole* of the large sums charged by Mr. Bishop for the compositions and arrangements to my songs;

that it was very true I had assented to a deduction of 50*l.* annually from the 500*l.* that had been for some years paid to me, as an aid towards defraying the expense of the composer, but that I had never, by either word or writing, consented to any further reduction of my stipulated annuity, nor had he himself ever even hinted to me his intention of making such a reduction, and therefore his bringing such charges against me now must be an entire mistake.

6th. A smooth answer from Power, saying that it was no mistake; that having informed me at the time what was the annuity he was about to give Bishop, he "*concluded*," that I would not consider it too much to pay the half of it. "*Concluded*," indeed! not the slightest notice does he take of the actual fact that I never assented, in word or writing, to any other reduction of my annuity than the 50*l.* which was agreed on between us. Instead of which, he has now mounted up charges little short of from 150*l.* to 200*l.* each year.

8th. Received a letter from my sister Ellen, saying that our dearest mother was by no means well. Have never of course had much confidence in her health since I last saw her, when she had recovered as it were from the very grave; but have indeed blessed God for every hour of comfortable existence that has been granted to her since, knowing well that she could not long be left to us, and dreading only for her a death of lingering pain.

9th. Another letter, if I recollect right, in which Ellen desired me not to think of coming over till I should hear further from her, as my mother was then much easier. Had I followed my own wishes I would have started instantly; but Bessy, full of alarm about the cholera, which is raging in Dublin, entreated me not to go, and seemed resolved if I did to accompany me. I therefore waited.

12th. A letter from Crampton, which Bessy gave me, saying that my darling mother was almost insensible; but that, as she had recovered from quite as bad a state before, she might now; and entreating me not to stir till I should hear from him again. Resolved to start immediately; but after breakfast my sweet Bessy, after preparing my mind to hear the worst, produced another letter from Peter Leigh, which she had withheld, and which contained the account that all was over (on Wed-

nesday night), and that the funeral was to take place on this very morning (Saturday). Returned home.

It is now useless, besides being painful, to say what I felt at the event. I had been too well prepared for it to feel anything violent, and the effect it had upon me was rather that of deep and saddening depression, which continued for some days, and seemed more like bodily indisposition than any mental affliction. The fact was too, that I *was* ill, whether from the shock at the last I know not. The difference it makes in life to have lost *such* a mother, those only who have had that blessing, and have lost it, can feel: it is like a part of one's life going out of one.

14th. Forgot to mention that about a week since I had a visit from Saunders, the present publisher of the "Metropolitan," (who came down by the night coach expressly for the purpose), to request me to become a contributor to that publication. Proposed to me three hundred a-year for my contributions; but I declined it, expressing my general repugnance to having anything to do with periodicals, and adding that, at all events, the sum he proposed was not such as could ever tempt me to get over that repugnance. He then begged me to name my own terms, but I would not. Promised, however, to give him for his next month my verses to Lady Valletort, in case she and her family should have no objection to their publication. Asked him to stay to dinner, but he was obliged, he said, to return by the night's coach. In consequence of this visit of Saunders's, have had a letter from Captain Marryat, the proprietor of the "Metropolitan," renewing his proposals. The depression of my spirits, and the feeling of indisposition, still continued. I should have been much better I know had I followed my own first impulse, and started immediately for Ireland; for even though I had but gone half way I should have felt I was doing something: the very effort and excitement of the journey would have done me good, and I should not have been left so helplessly to my own feelings as I was now.

15th to 21st. An effort of nature considerably relieved me, and I began to feel lighter and better. Bessy wrote to the Napiers to propose our coming to see them for a day.

22nd. In a fly to Freshford; our dear Tom

riding and in high delight, Mr. Hughes having lent him young Brabant's pony during the holidays. The Napiers very kind, and Napier himself hospitable and agreeable.

23rd. Received a letter from Captain Marryat, the proprietor of the "Metropolitan," proposing to me 1000*l.* a year, if I would become editor of the "Metropolitan," and saying there would be no necessity for my living in town in consequence, as there was a sub-editor who would look to all the details. Took time to consider of the proposition, which was one not hastily to be rejected. I had sent up to them the verses to Lady Valletort, and had said that whatever sum they thought them worth would be very acceptable; in consequence of which Marryat now inclosed me 100*l.*, expressing a hope that I would continue my contributions through the two next numbers. Returned him the 100*l.*, saying that I could not pledge myself to any further contributions, and that for the verses I had sent a sum in proportion to what Mr. Saunders had offered annually would be abundantly sufficient.

24th to 26th. From some late letters of Lady Morgan on the subject of the "Metropolitan," I had been led to believe that Campbell meant to give up the editorship of the magazine, which belief alone could have induced me to enter into any negotiations on the subject. Finding, however, from Marryat that Campbell was still to continue in the concern, I felt that my engaging as editor would look like forcing myself into his shoes; and therefore wrote to decline the proposition, saying, that "though I should consider it an honour to *succeed* Campbell, I could not possibly think of *supplanting* him."

27th. Another offer from Marryat, which he said he could not help making, though with but little hope of my accepting it; and this was 500*l.* a-year for contributions as often as it might suit me to give them, and only stipulating that for each of the three next numbers I should give them something. This I felt was too liberal an offer and too convenient to me in my present circumstances to refuse, though hating the thing most heartily, and still feeling it to be a sort of degradation of literature. I wrote to him to say that I should act *unfairly*, both by him and myself, were I, without due consideration, to reject an offer so

handsome, and that, therefore, I should turn the matter over in my mind and let him know my determination in a day or two.

29th. Our dear Tom's holidays being to expire to-morrow, we took him off to Marlborough for a gipsy party in the Forest, with Russell and some of his schoolfellows. A delightful day of it, though I (in walking on before the rest of the party) lost my way as usual, and had some difficulty in finding the place which they had fixed on for dinner. Five or six of Russell's schoolfellows, chosen by himself, formed our company, and all very merry.

30th. Wrote to Marryat, to say I accepted his offer for one year.

June 1st to 16th. Much annoyed and disgusted on receiving the new number of the "Metropolitan" (that which contains my verses to Lady Valletort) to see some ribald attacks upon Rogers in it, and also some vulgar trash about myself. The latter I didn't care a pin about, but the stuff against Rogers, appearing in a work with which my name will now be connected, annoyed me exceedingly, and gave me the first specimen of the sort of tarnish one must expect by such contact. Wrote to Captain Marryat to say that I really must pause here, and asked leave to be off my bargain, if there could be the slightest risk of any repetition of such disreputable attacks. Received a very gentlemanlike answer from Marryat, to say that he was as much shocked as I had been to see the passages about Rogers; and that I might depend upon nothing of the kind being ever again suffered to appear.

17th to 26th. Received a letter from M., in which he said, that in the course of an interview with Spring Rice upon some business, Rice had expressed to him the great pleasure it would give him to have me for a colleague in the representation of Limerick (should he not leave that place for Cambridge); and added that it was also the wish of government to have me in for Limerick. The government are, however, mistaken if they think they might count upon me as a supporter on Irish matters. I can already foresee that I should be against them tooth and nail.

27th. Went (Bessy and I and little Russell) to pass a day or two with the Salmons.

28th. To Watson Taylor's sale. Met there Wm. P., who told me that the metropolitan

elections, instead of taking the turn that he and others dreaded they would, were likely to be, if any thing, too aristocratical.

29th. A curious journal of Sir Edward Bayntun's has fallen into Salmon's hands, of which I glanced through a few pages. His difficulties about money, and the small sums he raised by bills (though living in the first company), very striking; taking up, for instance, a bill of 25*l.* by another to the same amount. Dinner hours of people of rank at that time (1740 or so) from three to four o'clock; then to White's, and afterwards to the Smyma.

July 1st to 3rd. On the 3rd dined at Salmon's (myself only): a large party, Lockes, &c. Slept there.

4th. Received a letter from O'Connel, marked "confidential," on the subject of my return for Limerick; of which he says there would not be the slightest doubt, were there not an impression entertained that, from my friendship with Lord Lansdowne, I should consider myself bound to follow his line of politics. Answered to say, that if I *did* come into Parliament it would not be to follow the track of Lord Lansdowne or any other man's politics, but to maintain Irish liberties and Irish interests at all risks and against all ministers; that it would, of course, be painful to me to come politically into collision with one or two of the present ministers, whose friendship I highly valued, but that these friends themselves were too well acquainted with my opinions not to be fully prepared for the line I should take on Irish politics, and that, at all events, prepared or not, Irish they should find me to the backbone. I then added, that having thus answered for myself as far as regarded English influence, I must say to him who embodied in his own person, all Irish influence, that of *him* also, in the event of my coming into Parliament, I must keep myself equally independent; and, in short, to repeat his own words in his letter, "be bound to no man or party whatever."

5th. A letter from John Scully relating to Cashel, where they appear, by his account, to be even still more eager to have me for their member than at Limerick. According to his showing, out of 200 and odd votes which the reform will create, 150 are already secured to me; and on my presenting myself there (which he strongly urges) there would not be, he says, the slightest doubt of my success.

6th. A letter from Captain Marryat, he having proposed himself some weeks since to come down to us.

7th. Took Marryat over to Bowood.

8th. Marryat left us. In the course of one of our conversations together, I took an opportunity of representing to him that he was really throwing away his money in giving me so much for my mere name; and his answer was, that if *he* was satisfied with the bargain, he did not see why *I* should make myself uneasy about it.

9th to 16th. Have been kept in a good deal of anxiety and doubt by the expectation of my dear sister Ellen, who is coming to pass some time with us, but is delayed by business.

17th. Set off to go to Bristol, to meet Ellen, who I had some reason to think was to sail this morning from Dublin. At Melksham received a letter from her to say that she should not sail till next Tuesday. Having taken my place, went on to Bath; drove about the new park with Crawford, who had a very comfortable dinner got ready for me at four; and at five I started to return home.

18th to 23rd. Writing some verses on Crabbe's inkstand for the "Metropolitan."

24th. Set off for Bath, with Bessy and Russell in a fly; walked about performing commissions till four, when they left me to return home; I dined at the York House, and was lucky enough to find Bowles there, with whom I had some very amusing conversation.

25th. Off for Bristol in a chaise. Arrived early at Clifton; and walked about the whole day, enchanted with the place, which I had had never seen before, having once merely passed through. It is quite unlike anything else, and in its way most beautiful. Called upon Strong the bookseller at Bristol, who took me to the Library, the Institution, &c. At four the packet (the Killarney) with my dear little Ellen arrived. Two other packets preparing to go out at the same time; in one of which O'Connell was to start. Some conversation with him about my return for some Irish place or another, which he said I was quite sure of; and added that I myself could have no notion of the enthusiasm that prevailed about me everywhere in Ireland.

Told him of a correspondence I had had on the subject of Limerick with M.; and of which, as I have not noted it down in its place, I shall

here hastily give the particulars. M. sent me a copy of a letter from a Dr. Griffin of Limerick, very sensibly written; in which he said, with reference to my election for Limerick, that those who represented me as likely to be backed by Lord Lansdowne's interest there, did me more harm than good, as at present the only drawback on the disposition of the people of Limerick towards me was their being afraid, from my known friendship with Lord Lansdowne, that I should be little better than his nominee. In my answer to M. on the subject of this letter, I begged him to set his Limerick correspondent right with respect to my supposed dependence on Lord Lansdowne, or on any other man. My whole past life ought to have been a sufficient security, I thought, for my independence in future; and so far from there being any chance of my becoming the nominee of Lord Lansdowne, I doubted very much whether (knowing the line I should take in Irish politics) he would be at all disposed to *give* me his interest in Limerick; and most certainly *I* should not be disposed to *ask* him for it. After something more to the same purport I added, that whether I should make up my mind to come into Parliament or not was a matter of very trifling consideration in my mind compared with the duty I felt thus instantly to repel such unjust surmises. The substance of this I now told briefly to O'Connell, representing to him at the same time the impossibility I feared there would be of my coming into Parliament at all, from my whole means of subsistence being dependent on my daily labour. The contemptuous snap he gave his fingers when I mentioned Lord L.'s interest in Limerick was but too expressive, I fear, of the real facts of the case; *i. e.* of the impotence of *any* lord's interest, anywhere, opposed to himself and the people. Got dear Nell safe ashore; and, having dined at Bristol, set off for home, where we arrived about ten at night.

August 1st. Bowles and the Hughes dined with us. Bowles very amusing; full of a story he is about to write concerning Ela, the foundress of Lacock Abbey; could not get on, however, without consulting Matthew Paris, and said he should be obliged to go to Salisbury expressly for the purpose. Recollected that I had a copy of Matthew Paris, and, to his great joy, produced it.

8th to 19th. Nothing notable. At work at

my "Travels," &c.; wrote for the "Metropolitan," "Song of the departing Spirit of Tithe;" also songs for Power, to complete the number wanting of my annual amount, and something for "The Times."

20th to 25th. A visit from Lord Lansdowne, who had arrived a day or two before. Walked part of the way back with him; and was rejoiced to see how firmly and healthily, and in his old way, he was again able to step out.

27th. The day tremendously wet; made up my mind to remain; wrote some verses for "The Times"—"Tory Pledges." In the evening, the two Galways, Horatia Fielding, and Edwards acted charades: their dresses very well managed, and showed off the beauties of the whole party to great advantage.

28th. Returned home pretty early.

29th. A letter from Corry, in which he tells me of a conversation he had had with a good "factious priest" (as he calls him), at Cheltenham, with respect to my forthcoming work. The priest had asked him, with much anxiety, to which religion I meant to give the preference in my "Search." "All I can tell you," answered Corry, "is, that I believe he means to place *your* religion very high." "Then he is a true Irishman?" demanded the priest. "That he is in every respect," answered Corry. A ball at Phipps's to which Bessy and I went, not forgetting dear Tom and Nell. A very pretty ball, good supper, &c. &c. Bessy danced herself nearly off her legs.

September 11th. Corry at breakfast; speaking of the theatricals at Blessington's. A set of mock resolutions drawn up, one of which was the following, chiefly levelled at Crampton, who was always imperfect in his part:—"That every gentleman shall be at liberty to avail himself of the words of the author in case his own invention fails him." P. F., who acted the King in Warwick, saying, in his affected way, with a twist of the mouth, "Gracious heavens! what am I?" and Humphrey Butler, who was one of the lords sitting round him, and was rather tipsy, answering, in an under tone, "By — you're the ugliest fellow and the worst actor that I ever saw!" Grat-tan saying to Corry, about the head of John Crampton, which is given in the "Kilkenny Theatricals," "How very unkind to give Mr. Crampton without his legs!" "It would be hard to manage it," said Corry. "Why no;

I would put one leg there, and the other there," pointing to each side of the head. Fielding to dinner: Corry very amusing.

12th. To Bath, Corry and I; my object being to attend a dinner given to Henry Hobhouse by the electors, to which they have invited me. Placed at dinner next John Cam Hobhouse, whom I found very good-natured and agreeable. My health drunk, and my speech in return very flatteringly received, though I found the first part (in which I lamented the little prospect there was of any change for the better in the system of government in Ireland) fall but coldly on the ears of my auditors. This is lamentable. When I came, however, to speak of England and Reform I got on most triumphantly, and the company called for me afterwards to address them again, but I declined. Got home, with my host, Dr. Crawford, about twelve. Despatched a note to the editor of the "Bath Chronicle," entreating him *not* to give a report of my speech.

13th. Called upon Burdett. Left Bath, with Corry, for Joy's before five, Joy having invited him to accompany me. It was near twelve before we arose from table; and soon after Corry and I started for Sloperton, where we arrived about a quarter past one, and found Bessy sitting up for us.

14th. All dined at Bowood—Corry, Bessy, my sister Ellen, and myself. Nothing could exceed the kindness of the Lansdownes to my poor dear little Ellen, who told me afterwards that the sad thought often crossed her mind during the day, what delight it would have given to our darling mother to have seen her among such people, and so cordially noticed by them: company, the Scotts, Luttrell, &c. Spoke, among other things, of the pretty French farce "*Les Voitures versées*," and the old fellow describing the delights of a good upset at his gate; poets, musicians, painters, &c.: "*Imaginez vous quand tout ça verse à la fois!*"

17th. Dined at Bowood: company, Lord and Lady Barrington, P. Oakden, the Listers, two Poles (one of them old Nimyerich, a Polish poet, who has been staying at Lacock, and expressing great impatience to "see his brother poet, Thomas Moore"), Luttrell, &c. Talking of the late Duke of Devonshire, his taciturnity, losing a game at cards one evening, and saying, "That's unlucky, Chiswick was burned

this morning ;" being the first intimation he had given his family of the accident.

Nimyerich mentioned a German author who has written two large volumes on the "Digestion of a Flea." A French term of cooking, "*Dinde à la veuve éplorée*." I mentioned Diodati having accused the French language (most foolishly) of being deficient in terms of cookery, and Voltaire replying to him, "*Plût à Dieu que vous eussiez raison ! Je m'en porterais mieux ; mais malheureusement nous avons un dictionnaire entier de cuisine*."

Talked of Gibbon's French ; the manifesto in that language which he drew up during the American war (the "*Mémoire Justificatif*"), which was considered in England so perfect in its style ; but which Lord Lansdowne said some Frenchman told him was easily discoverable to be a foreigner's. Talked of Sir W. Jones's French and of Beckford's in "*Vathek*." Anecdote of Mad. de Staël mistaking Charles Long for Serjeant Lens, who had just then done something disinterested in the way of refusing office ; and saying to him, What a pleasure and honour she felt it, to be made known to a man who in these days could so magnanimously "*rejeter les emplois*."* Music in the evening. Lady Barrington's Scotch song, "Charlie," most stirring and triumphant ; shows off her fine clear, bell-toned voice with great effect. Slept there.

18th. Walked home, had three or four hours' work, and returned. Rogers arrived from town at five.

19th. A walk before breakfast with Rogers, who was in a most amiable mood. After breakfast had music, at the organ first, and then at the pianoforte. Sung a good deal. R. and Luttrell walked part of the way home with me. Had Dr. Starkey, Coventry, and the girls to dine with us. R., during our walk, mentioned what Bobus Smith says of — ; "Why he is the most capacious believer that's to be found anywhere ! he believes more than almost any other man : he believes in no cause at all ; in the existence of all things from all eternity without any beginning whatever ; that they could not be otherwise than they are," &c. &c.

20th. Met Rogers, by appointment, on his way to call upon Bessy ; full of kindness to

her, as usual. Told me what success my late squib against tithes has had ; heard several people in town speaking of it. It is odd enough that he had never seen my verses to Crabbe's inkstand, where he himself plays a part.

21st. Lady Elizabeth called, with Lady Valletort and the old Pole, Nimyerich, who had been anxious to see my cottage. Fixed me to come to Lacock on Wednesday next, and, if possible, stay over Thursday ; foresee that I shall have nothing now but idleness for a fortnight to come.

23rd. Walked to Bowood to call upon Rogers ; found he had gone to breakfast and church at Bowles's, and set off there, accompanied part of the way by Lord L. and Luttrell. Lunched at Bowles's, and walked back with Rogers ; making, by the time I reached Sloperton, between twelve and thirteen miles. Bowles, by the bye, has been writing a most twaddling answer to my tithe squib, which has appeared in the Devizes paper ; looked a little nervous on the strength of it to-day. Bessy said, when I read it to her, "It is lucky for him he is your friend ;" and I *could*, to be sure, have made rare reprisals on him. A note from Mrs. Napier to Bessy, in which she says how much Napier had liked my late speech (of which "The Times" has given a good report) at the Bath dinner. "I have never," she says, "seen him more delighted than with the reading of it." This proves I was at least *radical* enough. Received a letter from Dr. Griffin of Limerick, telling me that they had formed an Election Society there, which would command at least 1500 of the 2000 votes likely to be registered there ; and that they waited but for my consent to send me a public invitation.

25th. Bessy and Tom off to Buckhill, in order to start from thence to-morrow. Called myself on Rogers at Bowood. Talking of Ireland, he enumerated the long list of distinguished men whom she has poured into England. Believed the Irish to be beyond most other people in *genius*, but behind them in *sense*. Dined at Buckhill, and walked home at night ; Bessy and Tom being to start in the York House in the morning.

26th. Struck by a curious account in the newspapers of the effects of darkness in producing deformity. Some caverns mentioned,

* Lord B., who was standing by, said, "I beg your pardon, Madam ; Mr. Long has shown his patriotism by serving the Crown."—Ed.

I forget where, in which the poor people take up their abode; and where, there being little or no light, monstrous births are frequent. In confirmation of the same facts, some French naturalist has found that tadpoles, if kept in the dark, may be nursed up to an enormous size without ever becoming frogs. To Lacock to dinner: company, Luttrell and Count Zamoisiki; slept there. Luttrell telling of Sir F. Gould, on some one saying to him, "I am told you eat three eggs every day at breakfast;" "No;" answered Gould, "on the contrary." Some of us asked, "What was the contrary of eating three eggs?" "Laying three eggs, I suppose," said Luttrell.

27th. To Bowood to dinner; two Neapolitan Counts Poerio* (father and son), Rogers, and the Mundys. The old Count very eloquent after dinner on the state of Italy; spoke very good French. Some conversation with him and his son after dinner; with the latter upon literature, Nicollini, Manzoni, &c. &c. Slept there.

28th. Walked home; Rogers with me great part of the way. Told a story of a young girl who had been sacristine (query, are there female sacristines?) in a convent, and conducted herself most innocently and industriously; till having her imagination inflamed by the searching questions of the confessor, she left her situation and abandoned herself to a licentious life. Her becoming weary of it and repenting, and returning to the neighbourhood of the convent; where some woman, a stranger to her, seeing her fatigue and distress, asks her to take refreshment. The girl inquiring about the convent and asking who was now sacristine of it; and the woman answering, "Antonia," (the girl's own name), and adding, "The same who has been sacristine for some years; a very good and pious girl." The girl's amazement; and her having a dream that night, in which the Virgin Mary appeared to her and said, that in consideration of her previous goodness and innocence, and the prospect of her repentance, she herself had acted as sacristine for her ever since her fall, and that she might now resume her place without tarnish, and become again worthy of her former character. R. said, that on mentioning

* Poerio the father was a man of very considerable talent. The son is one of the victims of the political persecutions of Naples; himself a patriot, and distinguished for his abilities.—ED.

this story (which W. Irving had told him) to Lady Holland, she remembered having read it somewhere, and sending her page for a volume of Le Grand's "Fabliaux," they found it. * * * In talking of pictures, R. mentioned Lord Carhampton saying to some one who asked him whether he would like to see a very fine picture of Poussin's, "Why yes; and if it is a fine picture, I had just as lieve it had been painted by any one else." Returned to Bowood to dinner; company, Dr. and Mrs. Fowler, Lady Elizabeth, Luttrell, and Zamoisiki. Slept.

29th. Bogers and Lord L. walked part of the way home with me. R.'s account of the early part of Horne Tooke's life; his life in Italy; being cut by a whole party on being found out to be a clergyman; his winning them all over, and being seen home to his house with a band of music. A saying of Horne Tooke's, "I don't like to hear people dwelling so much on *precedent*; it always shows there is something wrong in the *principle*." To Lacock to dinner; slept there.

30th. Meant to have staid at Lacock, but received a letter to say that Bessy was returning from town this evening, so came away after breakfast; I answered Dr. Griffin's letter, declining the proposal of the Limerick people on the ground that my circumstances are not such as could justify my coming into Parliament at all.

October 1st, 2nd. A note from Lord Lansdowne asking me for Thursday to meet Lord John.

4th. To Bowood to dinner. Lord John in excellent spirits after his canvass. I had mentioned to Lord L. in a note, that I should like to go up to town with Lord John if he could take me, and he now offered most cordially to do so. Talked in the evening of Pascal, Gibbon, &c.; and Lord L. read out Gibbon's splendid, but far too operose and ostentatious, passage about comets.

5th. Obligated to return home, though they wished me to stay; day desperately wet.

6th. Lord John called, and was very agreeable; laughed like a schoolboy half the time. Staid a good while with us, and delighted both Bessy and my sister; particularly the latter, to whom the sight of the famous Lord John was quite a godsend.

7th. Preparing for my trip to town. To

Bowood to dinner: company, besides Lord John, the Bowles's and Fieldings. Bowles amusing us by saying that he had once an offer to be made a member of the Whig Club; on our looking a little surprised, "Yes," he added, "and of the Linnean, too." I said, that in both instances it must have been some mistake, as he was neither Whig nor naturalist. Whishaw (who had been some time at Bowood confined by an accident, in consequence of which he bruised his nose very much) was able to come down and join us in the evening. Forgot to mention a note I had from Talbot, who was staying at Lord Shrewsbury's, at Alton, saying how much Lady Shrewsbury wished to be acquainted with me, and telling me that she had my "Melodies" bound in green velvet embroidered with gold, and the Irish harp in gold upon the covers. In answering him, I inclosed my note in a letter to Lord Shrewsbury, communicating to him the nature of the work I was engaged upon, and paying him some compliments upon his own work on the same subject; asking at the same time, with respect to his theological library, and whether I might be permitted to have access to it. Received a very polite answer, saying that he had a great number of books of the kind I wanted at Alton, and would forward to me such as I should mark in his catalogue; but that it would gratify him and Lady Shrewsbury much more if I would come and study at Alton, where they would be glad of my company for a month, or as long as I could make it convenient to stay.

8th. Started with Lord John about eight o'clock. A good deal of conversation about politics; never ceased, indeed, talking on one subject or another the whole way. Told him freely that I was still of the same opinion as to the rashness of giving so much to the people at once by the Reform Bill. He said, "So far from its being rash, he thought it the most prudent thing they could have done. It was a very different measure they had to take of the quantum of reform necessary when in and when out. While in opposition they were obliged to take what they could get; but when in power, and called upon to originate a measure themselves, they were pledged, he thought, to give the amplest they could with safety." In these latter words, however, lay the point upon which our difference of opinion turned.

It appeared to me that the principle upon which they justified their giving so much,—namely, that if they had given less, the people would not have been satisfied,—ought, on the contrary, to have made them reserve still further boons in their own hands, as the people were sure to be dissatisfied, at all events, and to ask for more, let the quantity given be as ample as it might. This is human nature, at least popular nature; and they had made a false calculation, I thought, in supposing it would be otherwise. Already, I said, this was apparent in the demand for ballot and shorter parliaments. To this he answered, fairly enough, that these two points were not to be considered as exceeding the *principle* of the Bill; because he himself had expressly adverted to them, in proposing the measure, as subjects open to future consideration. In speaking of the position in which the Ministry were now placed, I mentioned how constant were my apprehensions lest circumstances should arise to place them still more and more every day in opposition to the popular feeling, and to their own former principles. As a symptom of this, I referred to Lord John's own answer lately to a speech of Burdett's on the foreign policy of the Ministry, and said how sorry I was to see the tone he was forced by circumstances to take on that topic. Told him what Hobhouse had mentioned to me of the consternation into which Burdett's foreign policy speech had thrown the Treasury Bench, and of Lord Althorp saying to him (Hobhouse), "Now I dare say it would give Sir F. Burdett very sincere pain if, in consequence of that speech, I were to-morrow to resign; but really to that it must come if our supporters bring us into such difficulties by indulging in such speeches." Lord John, however, seemed to say that it was not on that occasion but on some other that Althorp threatened to resign. Spoke very cordially of Lord Althorp, and of the sort of Pylades and Orestes style (this *my* phrase, not *his*) in which they had gone on together through the Bill. As a proof of their inseparableness during that time, he mentioned that in company somewhere, where Lord Althorp was not present, on some one asking him (Lord John) whether he had a snuff-box, he answered, "No; but Althorp has." * *

Speaking of Lord Grey, he said that there

was far more humility and tractableness about him in his opinions and decisions, than the world, from his reputed temper and his manner, gave him credit for; that, in fact, few men were more ready to consult with and pay deference to others. Said that the only time during the progress of the Reform Bill that he himself felt nervous, was on their being about to resume office on the failure of the Duke of Wellington to form a Ministry. Was much struck, I own, during this whole day's conversation, not only with the manly frankness of Lord John himself, but still more at the temper and candour with which he bore the free speaking of his companion. Lord John mentioned that he had dined with Canning at Paris at the time when my squib about the Turtle and the Foreign Secretary appeared; that they talked about it, and Canning seemed much amused by it. Luncheon at Reading, and arrived at the Pay Office before seven. Found a snug dinner ready, and also a snug bed-room, into which, (instead of going to Fielding's) I turned for the night; Lord John expressing his regret that he could not ask me to use it all the time I remained in town, as he expected Lady William up daily from Woburn.

9th. Lord John had told me as we came up, that he had been employed during his other great occupations not only in writing a book but in printing it, and would lend me the sheets to look over. Could not, however, now find them. Left him after breakfast. Went and took possession of my comfortable bedroom at Fielding's.

Breakfasted at Brookes's; called upon the Bryans, the chief object of my coming to town, Bessy having told me that Bryan said he wanted most anxiously to see me upon a matter of much importance. Walked with me as far as the Charter-house to see Tom.

From thence I went to the Longmans; promised to dine with them on Friday. Told me they thought the Trade gave some symptoms of improvement, though whether it might not be a mere momentary excitement produced by the *penny* things which are now inundating the world of literature they could not feel quite sure. At a late sale, however, of theirs, they had sold upwards of 20,000*l.* worth of stock. Thought of calling at Rogers's, on the chance of his not having yet gone to Broad-

stairs; found that he was not to go till morning and would dine at home, alone; so took my seat and waited his return. A most agreeable *tête-à-tête* dinner and evening. Spoke of poor Mackintosh*: said he had sacrificed himself to conversation; that he read for it, thought for it, and gave up future fame for it. Told an anecdote of the Empress Catherine, which Lord St. Helen's had related to him. At one of her private parties, when she was as usual walking about from card-table to card-table looking at the players, she suddenly rang the bell for her page, but he did not come; she looked agitated and impatient, and rang again, but still no page appeared. At length she left the room, and did not again return; and conjecture was of course busy as to what might be the fate of the inattentive page. Shortly after, however, some one having occasion to go into the anti-chamber of the pages, found a party of them at cards, and the Empress seated playing along with them. The fact was, she had found that the page she rung for was so interested in the game he was engaged in, that he could not leave it to attend to her summons; and accordingly she had quietly taken his hand for him, to play it out, while he went on the errand. So meekly can they who have the power of life and death over those around them sometimes deal with their slaves! Lord St. Helen's himself was one of the Empress's company on the occasion.

10th. Breakfasted at Brookes's. Thence to Holland House; saw my Lady, who is very ill, and poor Lord H. still worse. Called at Murray's to inquire what was doing relative to the subscription for Sir W. Scott's family. Found I had been appointed on the committee formed for that purpose; some of the members of which are to have a meeting on Friday next.

11th. Breakfasted at Brookes's. Called on Marryat at United Service Club, but did not find him. Went hunting among the book-stalls of Holborn for theological books, and treated myself to a few. Back in time to dress for a five o'clock dinner at Holland House. Saw Lord H. before dinner lying on a sofa, with a folio volume of Erasmus propped up before him; looked very languid. Told me I should see him again after dinner, either there or in his bed. No one at dinner but

* Sir James Mackintosh died in the year 1832.—Ed.

Allen, Miss Fox, and my Lady ; the latter most perilously well and in a high state of excitement and agreeableness. * * * Promised to send me to Sloperton a few flagons of her light dinner Burgundy, the *Vin de Nuit*. Just as we had finished our dessert Lord John and Lord Lansdowne arrived, having come from the great Cabinet Council for which they have all been summoned to town. Lord John dined, but Lord L. returned to town to dine with Lord Melbourne. After his dinner Lord John went to Lord Holland to talk over what had been done at the Council. * * *

12th. Either to-day or yesterday went in search of Barnes, who has temporarily changed his residence. Could not find him. * * * Went to the meeting at Murray's relative to the subscription for Sir W. Scott. Found there Scott of Harden, Sir Coutts Trotter, Pusey, Hay, and one or two more. The object was to raise a sum for the purchase of Abbotsford. A statement of the amount of property left by him, how disposed of, and how encumbered, was laid before us. Abbotsford itself, it appeared, was not worth at the utmost 600*l.* a-year; and it would take that sum at least to keep it up, the very window-tax absorbing a good part of it. Though Scott was insolvent (not, of course, knowing that he was so) at the time when he settled Abbotsford on his son's wife, it appears that the settlement is not (as it would have been in other cases) null; as, Mrs. Scott's fortune (60,000*l.*) having been advanced on the faith of that settlement, her claim takes precedence of that of the creditors. Letters were read from Scotland requesting that we should merge our object in theirs and subscribe for the monument: as if the most solid monument, and the most welcome (if I may so say) to the spirit of Scott himself, would not be the gift from the country to his family of the place which will be for ever connected with his name. I saw plainly that there was but little hope of our object being attained; and fear much that even party has a good deal to do with the coldness if not disinclination manifested towards it, as if forgetting that Scott was a man of mankind, and one that ought not to be measured within the small and wretched circumference of Party.

Dined at Longman's: company, all, with the exception of McCulloch and myself, print-

ers, paper-men, and booksellers; the high church Rivington among the latter. Got on very well, though I now and then startled the ears of the Establishment publisher with our political heterodoxies. Talking of the Benthamites; a good specimen of their slang given in one of the objects professed by them, namely, "To minimise the degree of official pay, and maximise that of political aptitude." Wrote a note to Tom to tell him I should have him out to-morrow.

13th. Preparing for my departure on Monday, having taken my place in the York House. Dined at Bryan's; none present but myself, Edward Moore, and Bryan. Rather uneasy at Tom's absence. Took Bryan's carriage after dinner and whisked off to the Charterhouse; found that he had supposed the note to refer to to-morrow. Returned to Bryan's, and home early. Met Tom Campbell in the course of the day, and promised to breakfast with him to-morrow.

14th. Tom with me between eight and nine. Took him to Campbell's, where we breakfasted in the room allotted to the Polish Association; Campbell himself (the President) occupying the bed-room annexed to it, all for the good of poor Poland. Had at breakfast also the secretary, Dr. Bache, and one or two more. Walked about with Campbell afterwards. Forgot whether I have mentioned that he has withdrawn himself from the "Metropolitan." Explained to me the reason now, which was, that Marryat had required of him an article in prose as well as in poetry every month. (Marryat himself, by the bye, told me that it was an article in prose *instead* of one in poetry he had asked of him.) Took him with me to call at Power's. My first visit to that gentleman since I have been in town. Had called at his shop yesterday, and learned that he was still confined by illness to his bed; found him there now, and staid but a few minutes. Campbell left me to go pass the day with Hobhouse at Richmond. The Longmans had told me of a design Heath has on me, in the annual way; and to-day I had a visit from him on the subject. What he proposes is this: that I should furnish the whole contents of his Annual (the "Keepsake") myself, and that he shall give me a thousand pounds for it; in short, that it is to be my book illustrated, or rather my book illustrating his prints. Confessed to him that

in this shape the task appeared to me a more attractive one than any other (annual) shape he could have put it in. Begged most earnestly that I would give it a favourable consideration, which I promised. Dined, Tom and I, at Admiral Douglas's: none but themselves; and after dinner I was left alone with my excellent old friend over a bottle of his good wine, just as we used to sit opposite each other, twenty-nine years ago, aboard the crazy old Boston, in which ship, with no other ally than a twenty-gun sloop (the *Driver*), he had before challenged two fine French frigates, the *Didon* and *Cybèle*, to come out from New York and fight him; though having every reason to fear, as he told me, that at the very first broadside the quarter-deck of the old Boston would go to pieces. Walked with Tom part of his way at night, and then put him into a cabriolet to go to the Longmans, where he slept. Had packed up before dinner and left my things at the Gloucester Coffee House, where I was to sleep.

15th. Off in the morning at seven. An agreeable old gentleman in the coach, with whom I had much conversation: and astonished him exceedingly at the close by telling him who I was. Saw dear Russell at Marlborough on my way. Found Bessy and Ellen quite well.

16th. Preparing for the departure of our dear Ellen, whom it grieves us to lose. To Bessy the loss is irreparable; for no two beings could go on more sweetly and happily together, and the contrast between Ellen's quiet and Bessy's life and energy makes them but the more agreeable to each other. Both, too, so cheerful: it is quite a delight to me when in my study to hear their frequent laughter down stairs over some story or novel.

17th. Went to Bowood, Bessy, Nell, and myself; Lady L. having expressed a wish to show the gardens to Ellen before she went.

19th. Set off with Nell (Bessy of the party) for Bristol, stopping about an hour in Bath on our way. Had thought that the packet was to sail early the following morning, but found it would not sail till half-past three in the day; so that we might have enjoyed this day quietly at home, and saved the expense also of the night passed at Bristol. Provoking! Passed a comfortable evening, however, for our money, at the "Gloucester."

20th. Passed the morning in walking about the cliffs and through Bristol; and at one o'clock (in order to avoid the expense of a chaise) Bessy and I took our departure in the coach, leaving our darling Ellen to the care of the master of the inn to see her on board, with every prospect of a most prosperous passage. Got a fly at Bath, and arrived at home (with a tired horse, which could hardly drag us the latter part of the way) before eight.

I shall now put down hastily such particulars as occur to me with respect to my projected election for Limerick. I know not whether I have already made mention of a letter from Dr. Griffin (arising out of that which I had addressed to M. on the subject), wherein he informed me of the organisation of a political union in Limerick, of the result of the registries hitherto, and of the certainty he foresaw of my being returned if I would allow them to put me in nomination. To this I returned an answer, acknowledging warmly and gratefully their kind intentions towards me, and adding that it had always been one of the fondest objects of my ambition to sit in Parliament for Ireland: but that unfortunately, my circumstances were such, at once so narrow and precarious, that it would be impossible for me to afford either the time or expense which a proper attendance upon Parliament would require of me; in short, that my pen was my only support, and that to shut up the workshop for a single session would entail embarrassment upon me which neither my own feelings of ambition, nor any service I could hope to render Ireland, could in any degree justify. In this letter I happened to mention an opinion on the subject of the Repeal of the Union thus:—"For myself I will say, with Grattan in 1810, that 'having been an enemy to the extinguishment of the Irish Parliament, I must be a friend to its restoration,' but I will also add, with Grattan, that 'such a proposition in Parliament, to be either prudent or possible, must be called for and backed by the Irish nation.'" The only part of this letter which my correspondent, as it seems, allowed to transpire, was the first clause of the quotation from Grattan. The refusal to accept their offer, and the second qualifying sentence of the quotation, appeared to have been entirely suppressed, or at least withheld, from the public. The consequence was, my warm-

hearted (and warm-headed) friends then continued as much a-gog for me as ever; and, in a set of resolutions passed by their political union, I was announced as an unqualified Repealer, and hurraed for accordingly. On my return from town I received a letter from Dr. Griffin telling me of the enthusiasm which my declaration in favour of Repeal had excited; that they were determined to have me for their representative; and, in order to remove the only obstacle which appeared to their wishes, were about to raise a subscription for the purpose of purchasing an estate for me, and were then actually (as he communicated to me in confidence) negotiating for a small estate of 400*l.* a-year which was for sale in Limerick, and which the owner had agreed to suspend the sale of till the determination respecting me was known. As he had intimated in this letter (if I recollect right) that I was not as yet to be supposed to know what was going on, I answered in general terms expressive of my gratitude for the kind feelings entertained towards me, and saying that in any further step on my part I must be guided by the further intelligence I should receive from him. Shortly after this arrived a letter from Dr. Griffin, written before his receipt of mine, and begging for a definite answer as to my intentions with respect to accepting their proposal, as there were many who hesitated in acting for me on account of the uncertainty there was of my, after all, acceding to their wishes. Thus called upon for my decision, I could not hesitate as to the answer I ought to give. Expressing all the gratitude which I could not but feel at their generous offer, I added that, while it removed the difficulty which I had alleged on the score of want of means, it was attended with a difficulty of another kind still more insurmountable. To receive such a popular tribute *after* the performance of parliamentary services would, I said, be as honourable to him who accepted as to them who gave it: but to be thus rewarded *beforehand*, to go into Parliament their feed counsel, and even in my heartiest efforts for their cause to be exposed to the suspicion (tarnishing even when unjust) that I derived my inspiration from my rent-roll, and was at best "a labourer worthy of his hire;" this, I said, was a situation in which neither for *their* sakes nor my *own* was it advisable that I should place myself. However

generally and honourably both the parties concerned might enter into such a transaction, there was but too much danger, constituted as this world is, of its ending in disappointment to one of the parties, and perhaps disgrace the other.

Not long after the above answer I received an application from another quarter, which was not a little, I confess, flattering, and the more so from its being so totally unexpected. It came in a letter from my old friend Archy Douglas, who was then on a visit to his brother-in-law, Lord Cloncurry; and the following are his words:—"Lord Cloncurry tells me that he has just come from Lord Anglesey, who expressed himself *most anxious* that *you should* start for the College, and you should be *supported* by all the *government interest*, which must be considerable, in particular with the Bar. All expectants for appointments in the law would of course go with the government; and as to my profession I think you might reckon on a fair support. I feel there is no constituency by whom you could be returned to Parliament on whom you have so graceful and well-founded claims as Trinity College, Dublin. Your distinguished career in that university, of which you were one of the best ornaments, places your pretensions to its representation on high grounds. By the long conversation I had with Lord Cloncurry on the subject, he seems to think Lord Anglesey is most anxious to have you represent the College." * * * In my answer to Douglas's letter, I professed myself, of course, deeply grateful for the honour which Lord Anglesey did me in considering me worthy of such a station and such patronage; but (on the same grounds on which I had declined the Limerick proposal) assigned the limited state of my means as an insurmountable bar to my coming into Parliament. Lest, however, this might seem to imply that, had my circumstances allowed of it, I would have accepted of the proposition, I took care to say that, "Even if this objection did not exist, I felt that, with the views I entertained, it would be hardly possible for me to come into Parliament under the sanction of the present government;" adding, "When I say the *present* government, I must mean, I fear, *any* government, for where *they* fail how can I hope that others will succeed? but as long as the principle on which Ireland

is at present governed shall continue to be acted upon, I can never consent to couple my name, humble as it is, with theirs."

November 1st to 8th. Talbot came over unexpectedly from Lacock, and brought us the account of Lady Valletort's safe accouchement of a boy. Asked him to come to dinner the next day. Was surprised by a visit from two Limerick gentlemen, the brothers of my correspondent in that city, Dr. Griffin; and one of them the author of the very striking novel, "The Collegians." They had come, as they told me, expressly on the subject of my election for Limerick; their brother being of opinion that in a personal interview they could best convey to me all the anxiety there existed amongst the electors to have me for their member, and the certainty of the success of those measures which they were now vigorously setting on foot for the purpose of removing all the obstacles I had alleged to my consent. Asked them to stay to dinner, which they readily agreed to do; and, though I was obliged to leave them a great part of the day to themselves, not being able to spare the time from my study, we had at intervals a good deal of conversation on the subject of their mission, and there certainly could not have been found two more anxious or pressing suitors. The estate which the electors had their eye upon for me, and which Dr. Griffin represented as worth 400*l.* a-year, was reduced in their statement to about 300*l.*; but, as a proof of the facilities and the ardour there was towards the purchase of it, they told me of one man, a man in business in Limerick, who had offered to contribute to the subscription as his own share 100*l.* Talbot at dinner, and very agreeable. My Irish guests shy and silent; but Talbot and I made up the deficiency in both ways. Agreed with my two friends (who to the last expressed their hope of a favourable answer) that I would give the matter still further consideration, and would let them know the result to-morrow. In the course of our conversations, referring to the Repeal of the Union, I gave it as my opinion, that whoever took up that question as an object of serious pursuit, must be prepared to look *separation* in the face as an inevitable consequence of it. This startled them, and they most earnestly (and I have no doubt sincerely) disclaimed for themselves, as well as for the great majority of

Irishmen, all thoughts or apprehension of the Repeal leading to such a result. But what strange short-sightedness! As if a Catholic House of Commons (which they would be sure to have *out and out*) would not instantly set about disposing of Church property in the first place, and absentee property in the second; and as if England would stand quietly by to see the work of spoliation go on: as if (even were *these* elements of strife out of the way) there would not constantly arise questions on trade, foreign treaties, going to war, &c., on which two legislatures like those of England and Ireland would be certain to differ; and then away would go their slight link of connection to the winds. What was so near happening in 1789, when the Irish parliament was Protestant, could hardly fail to take place after a repeal, when it would be to all intents and purposes Catholic. To these and other such points which I put to them, they did not know well what to answer. "Still," I continued, "notwithstanding all this, and with all these (to me) evident consequences staring me in the face, so hopeless appeared the fate of Ireland under English government, whether of Whigs or Tories (the experiment now having been tried with both, and the results of both being the same), that, as the only chance of Ireland's future resuscitation, I would be almost inclined to run the risk of Repeal, even with separation as its too certain consequence, being convinced that Ireland must go through some violent and convulsive process before the anomalies of her present position can be got rid of; and thinking such riddance well worth the price, however dreadful would be the pain of it. Whether, even then, she would be able to remain free between England and France, to one or other of whom she seems destined to belong, is another awful question; but that she will be at some time or other not very distant the seat of war between both countries, is but too probable."

9th. At three o'clock my two friends called according to appointment, when I told them definitively that it was impossible for me to accede to the proposition, and, having before they came pencilled in my pocket-book a sketch of the sort of answer I meant to return to the Limerick Union, submitted it for their approval. This done, I saw them cross the fields on their way to Devizes, and the warm-

hearted fellows parted from me, I must say, with tears in their eyes.

10th. Despatched my answer to the Requisition.

11th to 13th. Received a letter, one of these days, from Dr. Griffin, in the postscript of which he informed me that O'Connell had just arrived in Limerick; and having seen my answer, which was on the point of being laid before the Union, begged that it might be withheld till he himself should have communication with me, as he thought he could put the matter to me in such a shape as would remove all my objections. In consequence of this I waited some posts, as a matter of courtesy; and then, not hearing from O'Connell, wrote to him to say that I had heard of his kind interference, but that nothing even *he* could say (though his word, like Joshua's, seemed to be capable of controlling far greater luminaries than *I* was) could have the effect of altering my resolution; at the same time wrote to Dr. Griffin, that if my letter did not soon appear in the Limerick papers I should be forced in my own defence to publish it here.

14th to 30th. For the remainder of the month at work in various ways; at my Theology; for the "Metropolitan," and for the "Times." Sent two squibs to the latter lately, which appear to have been very successful.—"St. Jerome on Earth," First and Second Visits. Soon after the appearance of the first received a letter from some person (a stranger to me) asking in very civil and flattering terms whether this *jeu-d'esprit* was mine or not? as he had laid a wager with a friend on the subject, and had inquired in vain of the editor of the "Times" to help him to a decision on it: not that he had himself, he said, the least doubt on his mind that the verses came from the same hand that had already given the world a series of the most exquisite, &c. &c. &c., but because the wager could not be decided without some such authority. Thinking it was a pity so civil a gentleman should lose his wager, I got Talbot one morning to write him a letter for me saying, "The person to whom Mr. — addressed a letter of such a date takes this method of informing him that he is right in his conjecture, and is therefore the winner of the wager."

December 1st, 2nd. Great praises of me in the late speeches of O'Connell at the Dublin

Union. My letter to the Limerick people printed at last, and most flattering comments on it by some of the speakers at the Limerick Union.*

* This is the address alluded to in the text:—

"Sloperton Cottage, Nov. 5th, 1832.

"GENTLEMEN,

"I have to acknowledge, with every feeling of respect and gratitude, the requisition so numerously signed, which I have this day had the honour of receiving from you. Already had I been in a great degree prepared for such a call by a correspondence in which I have been engaged with one of your fellow-citizens, and which, though but preliminary to the decisive step which has now been taken, had put me fully in possession of the kind feelings entertained towards me by the greater portion of the enlightened electors of your city.

"To know that even a thought of selecting me as their representative had once entered into the contemplation of persons like yourselves, so well qualified by a zealous sense of the value of liberty to judge of the requisites of those to whom such a trust should be confided, would in itself have been a source of pride and gratification to my mind; you may judge therefore what are my feelings on receiving so signal a proof, both in the cordial and unsought requisition which has this morning reached me, and in those further proceedings which I understand you meditate, that the honour you did me in selecting my name from among the many offered to you was no light or transient compliment, but that you deliberately think me worthy of being the representative of your interests in the great crisis, as well for England as for Ireland, which is now approaching.

"But, Gentlemen, rarely in this life can so high and bright a position as that in which your offer now places me be enjoyed without its opposing shadow; and in proportion to the pleasure, the triumph, which I cannot but feel at this manifestation of your opinion,—placing as it does within my reach a post of honour which I have so often in the ambition of my young days sighed for,—in proportion to my deep and thorough sense of the distinction you would thus confer upon me, is the pain with which I am compelled reluctantly to declare that I cannot accept it. The truth, plainly told, is, that my circumstances render such an appropriation of my time impossible; not even for a single session could I devote myself to the duties of Parliament without incurring considerable embarrassment. To the labour of the day, in short, am I indebted for my daily support; and though it is by being content with this lot that I have been able to preserve that independence of mind which has now so honourably, and I may be allowed to boast in so many quarters, won for me the confidence of my fellow-countrymen, it is not the less an insuperable impediment to the acceptance of the high honour you offer me.

"I am not unaware, as I have already intimated, that, in your strong and generous desire to remove this only obstacle which you know opposed itself to my compliance with your wishes, you have set on foot a national subscription for the purpose, as you yourselves express it, of providing me with the qualification necessary for a member of the House of Commons. This proof of your earnestness in the cause I feel, both on public and private grounds, most sensibly. But, however honourable I might deem such a gift after the performance of services in Parliament, I see objections to it which to me are insurmountable. Were I obliged to choose which should be my direct paymaster, the Government or the People, I should say without hesitation the People; but I prefer holding on my free course,

3rd. A visit from Bowles, full of delight at my letter; "manly, affecting, &c.; had made him cry in reading it."

4th. Lord Kerry called; spoke also of the letter: "The best letter ever written." Asked me to attend his election dinner. Lady Lansdowne and Lady Louisa called likewise in the course of the day; Lady L. bringing a nice French bonnet as a present for Bessy from Paris.

5th to 11th. A visit from Talbot to tell us of his success at Chippenham. A letter from Lord John Russell, in which he says, "I am glad to find, what I should have been sorry to find on any other occasion, that you are not coming into Parliament: I should have been sorry to see you going out into the lobby when I was staying in; and as I am convinced that must have been the case, I would rather have a worse man in your place than have that violence done to my feelings."

12th. Lord Kerry's election dinner at Calne. Lady L. had written to say Kerry would take me; but Phipps having already offered, went with him. Nothing could go off better than the day did altogether; the young chairman very adroit in his toast givings, and the company very civilized and intelligent. Their reception of me most enthusiastic. Some good glees sung; and one of the singers in them a shoemaker. Brought home by Phipps. They had wanted me to sleep at Bowood, but I preferred this.

13th. A note from Lord L. to ask me to fix a day to dine. Said he could not delay, even till then, telling me how very much he admired my address to the Limerick electors. "It was," he said, "really perfect for the occasion."

15th. A note from Lady L. to say the carriage would be with me at four. Nobody but Labouchere. In talking in the evening Lord L. asked me whether I had ever read any English work of Sir Thomas More, as Mackintosh praised him for being one of the first that wrote anything like a good English style. We humble as it is, unpurchased by either: nor shall I the less continue, as far as my limited sphere of action extends, to devote such powers as God has gifted me with to that cause which has always been uppermost in my heart, which was my first inspiration and shall be my last,—the cause of Irish freedom.

"I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

"Your faithful and devoted Servant,

"THOMAS MOORE."

then consulted a Bibliographical Dictionary, and found some English works of his mentioned which none of us knew anything about. Speaking of the construction so often used in public speaking, of the "*then* Government," "*then* Minister," Guthrie said it was following the Greek idiom, but I expressed my doubts whether he could show either "*now*" or "*then*" used before a noun in this manner in Greek. In the course of the evening he showed me a passage of Thucydides, which certainly came *near* the case in question, though it was not altogether what he had asserted—*της νυν Ἑλληνικης Θαλασσης*. Slept there.

18th to 31st. A letter from Corry, in which he quotes to me some opinions of his Irish correspondents about my address to the Limerick people. Bellew says, "Moore's address does him infinite honour." The Chief Justice Bushe writes, "I rejoice with you at Moore's farewell: he was right; what would the Muse do in a Pandemonium?" William Curran says, "I join most heartily with you in your admiration of Moore's address: it breathes the dignity of the bard and the spirit of the gentleman; the latter rather a novelty of late here."

1833.

JANUARY 1st, 1833. Had been for some days in correspondence with Lardner respecting my Irish History, which I am now about to resume in earnest; and my supplies from Power no longer going on, and my supplies from the "Metropolitan" being now at an end, I found it necessary to request of him an advance of money on the work. With great readiness he entered into my wishes, and agreed to the terms of accommodation which I proposed. Dined at Bowood, to meet Sydney Smith and his family: party, besides the Smiths, Lord Ilchester and his family. Sydney, as usual, full of wit and fun. Talking of Dumont and Bentham; the luminous manner in which the former brought Bentham's thoughts out: a good deal of his own must have been mixed up with it; his remarks on the drama, for instance. The chapter on Peines Caractéristiques full of stark staring Benthamism: the punishment for a coiner of false

money, a hot half-crown impressed upon the cheek; a woman who murdered her child, to carry always a basket suspended from her neck with a leaden child in it of a weight proportioned to her strength, *à sa force naturelle*. * * * Talking of a paragraph lately which stated that all the Church dignitaries meant to resign in case the threatened Church Reform was brought forward, he went off at score on the sad state we should be reduced to by such a resignation; our being obliged to send to America to borrow a bishop: "Have you such a thing as a bishop you could lend us? Shall keep him only a fortnight, and return him with new cassock," &c.

2nd to 4th. Sydney called at Sloperton, and was very good-natured in admiring and praising everything; said afterwards that it gratified him to see genius so well lodged, and that he had found out a good motto for my house—"*Ingenium benè habitat.*"

5th. Went to Bowood to dinner. I staid to sleep, and pass to-morrow.

6th. Talking of the bread they were now about to make from sawdust, Sydney said, people would soon have *sprigs* coming out of them. Young ladies, in dressing for a ball, would say, "Mamma, I'm beginning to sprout." Spoke of derivations of different words: nin-compoop, from *non compos*; cock-a-hoop, from the taking the cock out of the barrel of ale, and setting it on the hoop to let the ale flow merrily. Talbot, by the bye, has since suggested that it was from a game cock put on his mettle with his *houppé* erect. * * * Quoted an excellent *mot* of somebody to Fontenelle, on the latter saying that he flattered himself he had a good heart—"Yes, my dear Fontenelle, you have as good a heart as can be made out of brains."

In talking with Hallam afterwards, I put it to him, *why* it was that this short way of expressing truths did not do with the world, often as it had been tried, even Rochefoucauld being kept alive chiefly by his ill-nature. There was in this one saying to Fontenelle all that I myself had expended many pages on in my "Life of Byron" endeavouring to bring it out clearly; namely, the great difference there is between that sort of sensibility which is lighted up in the head and imagination of men of genius and the genuine natural sensibility whose seat is in the heart. Even now, in thus

explaining my meaning, how many superfluous words have I made use of? Talking of the Brahmins being such good chess-players (nobody it seems can stand before them at the game), Mrs. Hastings' *naïveté* was mentioned in saying, "Well, people talk a good deal about the Brahmins playing well; but I assure you Mr. Hastings, who is very fond of chess, constantly plays with those who come to the Government House, and *always beats* them." Lord L. mentioned Mrs. Siddons saying one day, when looking over the statues at Lansdowne House, that the first thing that suggested to her the mode of expressing intensity of feeling, was the position of some of the Egyptian statues, with the arms close down by the sides, and the hands clenched. This implied a more *intellectual* feeling as to her art than I have ever given Mrs. Siddons credit for. To be sure, if ever great actor or actress had that feeling, she (the greatest *I* had ever seen) ought to have been inspired with it; but, in my opinion, none have. It is not an intellectual art. She was a dull woman. Kemble was a cultivated man; but a poor creature when he put pen to paper, or otherwise attempted to bring out anything of mind. Had a good sermon from Sydney Smith; only that it was all expressly addressed to people living in London (one of his St. Paul's sermons, in short), and therefore ninety miles wide of the mark. Dined and slept.

7th. Sydney and his family off after breakfast. Staid for an hour or two looking over books in the library, and then took leave of Lord Lansdowne, who starts for town in two or three days.

8th to 31st. From this time busy at home, with the exception of a visit which Bessy and I paid for two days at Lacock, where we made acquaintance with Talbot's newly espoused wife.

February 1st to 27th. So busy finishing off my theological work, that I have not had time to journalise. Sent a squib to the "Times," entitled "Lord Henry and St. Cecilia." Had before sent an "Ode to the Youths of Trinity College." Towards the latter end of the month my peace very much disturbed by this new Algerine act of my friends, the Whigs, against Ireland, the Coercion Act. Constant discussions with my friend Fielding on the subject.

28th. Sent Barnes some verses against the late act, entitled "Paddy's Metamorphosis." Through fear, I suppose, of his saintly readers, Barnes altered my ejaculation "Oh Christ!" into "Father's blood," which is quite new to me either in Ireland or anywhere else, and is a disfigurement to the verses.

March 1st. A visit from Lady E. Fielding, who broke out about the verses which were in to-day's paper. Wants me to defer my visit to town in order to meet the Valletorts, who come in a few days, and she wishes Mrs. Moore and me to meet them; but must be off on Tuesday or Wednesday. A letter from Lord John this morning as follows:—

"Dear Moore,

"Here is for your 'black and woolly already,'* if it be yours; more sense, though less poetry. Yours truly,

J. R."

(Lord John's verses.)

"THE IRISH ———.

"In Genoa 'tis said that a jewel of yore,

Clear, large, and resplendent, ennobl'd the shrine,
Where the faithful in multitudes flock'd to adore;
And the emerald was pure and the saint was divine.

"But the priest who attended the altar was base,

And the faithful who worshipp'd besotted and blind;
He put a green glass in the emerald's place,
And the multitude still in mute worship inclin'd.

"So Ireland had once a fair gem of pure water,

When Grattan and Charlemont wept with her sorrow;
By a token of glass her new patriots have bought her,—
'Tis a jewel to-day,—'twill be shiver'd to-morrow."

6th. Started for town. Had written to Bryan to say I should dine with him; and arrived there before half-past seven: none but himself and Mrs. B. Told of — one of the new Irish members, that having, at his election, bantered a butter merchant who came to vote against him, asking him at which side of the firkin of butter he put the stone as a make-weight, the fellow, after giving him some answer, said, "And now, Mr. —, let me ask you a question: which was it, the leaders or the wheelers you held that night when your father robbed the mail?" Bryan, as usual, savage against Ireland, and all for the new bill. "By God! it's not *half* strong enough." Got to my lodgings (15, Duke Street) early.

7th. At home till three. Went out with Mrs. Bryan in her carriage; drove to Charter House, but could not see Tom. To Rogers's at six, to take my chance of dining with him; had dined, and was going alone to some

"The burden of my verses.

theatre, but ordered a beefsteak for me, and both went to Drury Lane, where we saw "Don Juan," and a beautiful ballet, the "Sleeping Beauty;" very pretty dancing, *à la Taglioni*, by Madlle. Duvernay. Rogers very kind and agreeable; fixed to dine with him again to-morrow.

8th. At home busy till four. At Brookes's found two or three, who, when I said, "I can't bear this bill," answered in an under tone, "I don't like it either." They are all in a wretchedly false position, and evidently feel that they are so. Dinner with Rogers. Even he (whose views of politics are in general so manly and consistent) has got bitten a little with this new Whig frenzy, and tries to defend their apostacy, for it is apostacy. Went together to the oratorio, which was very fine throughout; the last scene of the Israelites passing through the Red Sea very animated and striking.

9th. Had Tom out from the Charter House. Talking of "Killing no Murder," Sharp said that it appeared, after all, it was not written by Colonel Pride. Remarkd how admirable it was, and quoted a famous passage from it. Dined (Tom and I) at Edward Moore's, for the purpose of going to some theatre. Met a Mr. Nugent, nephew to Mrs. Edmund Burke, to whom, it appears, she left all Burke's papers. Mentioned his having found the rough draft of the Prince's celebrated letter at the time of the Regency among Burke's papers. Is at present in negotiation, by his own account, with Lord Milton (Lord Fitzwilliam) on the subject of these papers, which Lord F. means to edit. Two opera tickets having arrived, determined to take Tom to the opera. The opera, "Corradino;" the ballet, "Faust."

10th. Made calls; saw Barbara Godfrey. Dined with Rogers to meet Wilkie and Kenny. Talking of the picture from "Lalla Rookh" which is now exhibiting at the British Gallery,—"*Mokanna unveiling his face to Zelica*,"—"*Wilkie, in his matter-of-fact way, said, 'Pray, Mr. Moore, can you give me any idea of the sort of face you meant to be under that veil?'*"

11th. Hard at work all day. Dined at Lord Holland's: company, Duke of Bedford, Lord Lansdowne, Lord J. Russell, Marsh, &c. * * * The Hollands talking at dinner of their tour on the continent in 1800, when Marsh accompanied them; some difficulties

they had with a *commis* in their way; his saying, "*Enfin! je suis dans le cas de vous arrêter*;" Marsh's alarm at the phrase, *je suis dans le cas*—"I don't like that *dans le cas*." Marsh having arrived at Dover before them, was seized as a spy, on account of his memorandum-book, and kept there a long time; not suffered to stir out without somebody to watch him, but told, for his comfort, that "the Government was disposed to be lenient."

12th. Taken out by Mrs. Bryan to make calls: a great saving of coach-hire. Called upon Mrs. Conyngham, whose face reminded me a little of poor Emmett's. Dined at Rogers's: Leslie and Chalons dined; we had also Kenny and Allen. In talking with Leslie in the evening I put it to him to account for the extraordinary fact, that the Italian artists of the present day, living in the midst of all that is most beautiful in art, and having it constantly before their eyes, should yet produce nothing but abortions themselves. His explanation of this not satisfactory; so little so, that I forget what it was.

13th. Dined at Lansdowne House. Had told them that I meant to have Tom out, and they were good-natured enough to ask him also, but I did not take him. A family party; Miss Fox, Lady Mary Fox, and Bobus Smith,—the first time of my ever meeting him. Very agreeable; and I can easily imagine, in his best time, preferable, with some people, to Sydney. Lord L., for instance, rates him higher. But Sydney, Sydney is, in his way, inimitable; and, as a conversational wit, beats all the men I have ever met. Curran's fancy went much higher, but also much *lower*. Sydney, in his gayest flights, though boisterous, is never vulgar.

14th. At home at work, as usual. Dined with Mrs. Manners Sutton, for the purpose of attending the House of Commons after dinner, to hear the Irish Church Reform discussion; but was disappointed. Found, on taking my seat under the gallery (next to Lord Sandon), that the debate was put off.

15th. Dined at Lord Listowel's: company, Lord and Lady Mayo, the Newtons (she a very pleasing as well as pretty person), Latham, the Bushes, &c. Sat within one of Lord Mayo:

"For who, with an ounce of sense, would go,
To sit and be bored by Lord Mayo?"

Suppose he never heard of those wicked lines of mine; at all events, nothing could be more friendly than both himself and his lady.

15th. Had Tom out, the Lockes having good-naturedly asked him to dine. Singing in the evening; but I took flight at ten, having engaged to accompany Rogers to the Duke of Sussex's *conversazione*. Called upon him at Sharpe's, where he had dined with Macaulay, Jeffrey, Charles Grant, &c. Had a good deal of conversation with Jeffrey (whom it always delights me to meet) on the subject of the Irish bill, and I saw that he feels most sorely the position in which it places him and all of them. Asked me could I think that anything but a strong sense of the necessity of the crisis could induce men to damage themselves in the eyes of the public (as he owned was but too likely to be the case) by such a departure from their general principles? The necessity, however, is what I question; and though the excitement produced everywhere by their own precious Reform Bill may have stirred up into somewhat more activity the spirit always alive in Ireland, I think there has not passed a year, during the last thirty, in which almost as good a case might not have been made out for a green bag or a red box, as these ministers have produced. But the fact is, that Jeffrey, and other such conscientious members of the party (and there cannot be a man more honourably and liberally disposed than he is), are the victims of their position. From that much abused feeling of honour which binds party-men together, one hot, petulant man, like —, can commit the whole set, by making them gulp down measures the most alien to their real sentiments.

16th. My mornings mostly the same; despatching, as hastily as I can, the last sheets of my work. Dined at Rogers's, a dinner originating in my wish to meet Barnes while in town, and which was to have taken place last Sunday but that B. was engaged: company, the Duke of Argyll, Lord Clifden, Lord Gosford, Burdett, C. Fox, W. Ponsonby, Luttrell, Labouchere, Warre, and one or two more. In talking of Wolfe Tone's *Journal* (which Labouchere compared with Swift's "*Journal to Stella*!" and pronounced it affected, insincere, &c.), Rogers mentioned what I was glad to hear, that the Duke of Wellington had spoken highly of it to him, and said that but few

books had ever interested him so much. Burdett and myself remained with Rogers talking politics after the rest had gone. Burdett's conservatism deplorable. By the way, young Murray told me the other day that Croker had lately met Burdett somewhere (for the first time) at dinner, and that he said afterwards to Murray, "Talk of conservatism! he beats me hollow." As an addition to this, I have heard since that Peel was also of the party; and that, after one of Burdett's extravaganzas in his new line, Peel said quietly, "This is all very well, and I, of course, agree with you; but it would be as well not to take quite so high a tone." Peel keeping down Burdett's Toryism is excellent! But I doubt this supplement to the story.

17th. In talking one of these days at Brookes's with Lord K. he said, "What's to be done with Stanley? for he won't go with the times, and no ministry can go on without him." He then remarked that he (Stanley) and Peel were evidently destined, before long, to come together; the only difficulty was, which should yield to the other, as both want to be leaders.

18th. Went to Lansdowne House; found a large assembly: talked with a number of old acquaintances. Sydney Smith, in speaking of the meditated "Life of Mackintosh," by his son, said to me, "How I wish it was in the hands of a certain friend of mine, instead!" Mentioned that a journal which Mackintosh kept while in India, and which it was feared had been lost, has been lately discovered.

19th. Dined with Byng: company, Lord de Ros, Luttrell, Greville, Dr. Quin, &c. In my way to dinner left at De Ros's the papers relative to Lord Edward he lent me: as well as some curious old letters of his family; some of Lord Coningsby, &c., which *might* have been, perhaps, turned to some account, had I had time to examine them. Dinner agreeable enough. Went afterwards to the Opera.

23rd. Paid a visit to Mrs. Conyngham; promised to dine with her next week. A visit, before I turned out, from Tom, whom the Merewethers have undertaken to dine to-day. Dined, myself, at Brookes's. Forgot to mention a sally of Lady Holland's the other day, which amused me a good deal from its truth. Lord John had been mentioning some proceedings of Hume and others, in the House, all

indicative enough of what is still further to come. "Well," she said, with a shrug of disgust, addressing herself to Lord John and Lord Holland, "*Tu l'as voulu, George Dandin.*" Nothing can be truer. They have no right to complain who so deliberately gave the impulse. Have been sitting to Moore, the sculptor, for my bust. On my way from him to-day called at Sir Martin Shee's, and agreed to dine with him to-morrow.

24th. Tom disposed of at the Merewethers'. Dined at Shee's: his own family merely. A good man, and independent. The gentlemen at Brookes's full of ire at Abercromby's vote against them the other night. "I take him to my heart for it," said I to Hobhouse; "but I suppose you are all in a rage with him." On talking with Fazakerley afterwards, I found that the ministers were fully prepared for the thing. Faz. himself highly indignant with Abercromby, and had called upon him to rate him on the subject. "I suppose," said A. to him, "the *mob* of the House are in high dudgeon with me." * * * I will *not* give up my good opinion of Abercromby.

25th. Mrs. Bryan took me about in her carriage to pay visits. Called at Lord Dover's and saw Lady Dover, who asked me to name some day this week to dine with them; named Thursday. Met there Lady Stafford (Gower that was), who asked me to dine on Wednesday, and go to a private view of the microscope in the evening. Unluckily engaged for dinner, but promised to join her party in the evening. Took advantage of the carriage to be left at Longman's, where I was to dine, and had an hour's talk on business before dinner. A few days after my last interview with Power I wrote him a note to say that, in order to avoid coming to any extremities, I was very willing to submit the difference between us to the arbitration of two persons appointed by common consent; that I would name either Mr. Longman or Mr. Rogers, both men of business, and he should appoint somebody equally qualified on his side; or (as I looked for nothing that *any* two fair men would not award to me) *he* might appoint both arbitrators, and I was perfectly ready to abide by their decision. To this he answered that he had no objection whatever to Mr. Longman or Mr. Rogers, and would be very glad if Mr. Rees would act on his side. This ready assent

to my proposal of an arbitration looked, I thought, well and promising; and, in the note I wrote acquainting him of Rees's consent to act between us, I took the opportunity of mentioning the favourable impression this step of his had made upon me. In talking over the matter with Rees and Longman now, I found that Power had been with Rees in the morning, and left him our deeds of agreement and some extracts from my letters to look over; the result of which examination, was that, in the opinion both of Rees and Longman (to the latter of whom the matter was more explained), Power "had not," as they expressed it, "a leg to stand upon." Even the deduction of the 50*l.* annually from my annuity (which I agreed to give towards the payment of the arranger), he has from these documents, they think, no power of enforcing, if I chose to refuse it. In consequence of finding the case so bad, it was Rees's intention to decline being arbitrator; but I suggested that it would be advisable to state, at the same time, his reasons for so declining, as it might have the effect of making Power think a little more seriously on the subject. Company at dinner, Merivale (who has sent me lately the new edition of his agreeable work, the "Greek Anthology"), McCulloch, James Stuart, author of the "Three Years in North America," and the partners. Story of a Scotch divine, well-known for being a *seccatore* in his preaching, who, having been caught one day in a shower going to church, was complaining to a friend of being very wet; "Well, Geordie," said the friend, "only get up in the pulpit, and ye'll be dry enough."

27th. Told Rogers (who I forgot to mention, had consented to meet Rees as my arbiter in the business with Power) of Rees having looked over Power's papers, and then declined having anything to do with the business. Nothing, Rogers thought, could be more injudicious and mischievous to me than this step. Rees ought to have refused looking at my papers till they were laid before him and Rogers together, when they might have secured a settlement; but now, by defeating thus the prospect of an amicable arrangement, he had thrown the whole thing adrift, and left no other alternative but law. This I felt to be but too true. * * * Rogers was most hearty and anxious on the subject, and as he never fails to be upon

matters of business) clear-sighted and judicious.

31st. Wished much to have been able to get to the Warwick Street Chapel, but could not leave my transcribing. Tom went, but, from the great crowd, could not get in. Walked about with him a little, intending him to return to the Charter House afterwards, but, by good luck, Admiral Douglas, on whom we called, kept him to dinner, I myself being engaged to Lansdowne House. Had been asked, also, to the Speaker's. Large party at L. House; Sir C. and Lady Coote, Hobhouse, Codrington, Spring Rice, &c. Somebody mentioned that the Duke of Modena has set up a newspaper in his dominions, of which he is himself the editor, and calls it "*Luce di Verità*." Was told, one of these days, of a smart thing said by Alvanley respecting an exquisite bachelor's box, fitted up, it appears, in the most ornamented style, but where, it also appears, there is never by any chance a dinner given. "I should like a little less gilding and more carving," said Alvanley. Luttrell mentioned rather an amusing quaintness he had read somewhere lately. In speaking of some young man just come of age, it was said, "he had nothing to do, and a great deal of money to do it with."

April 2nd. Walking with G—— D——, he mentioned having met Talleyrand yesterday, and his saying of some woman that L—— was praising as having *beaucoup d'esprit*, "*Où, beaucoup d'esprit, beaucoup; elle ne s'en sert jamais*." Mentioned a thing Talleyrand had said to him in speaking of the Americans, which he (G——) professed not to be able to understand, nor do I quite comprehend it either: *Comme toutes les nouvelles nations, ils manquent de sensibilité*, meaning physical sensibility. Talleyrand's notion must, I think, have been that civilization and luxury act, through the mind, upon the body, and render men *physically* more sensitive both to pleasure and pain; and there may be some truth in this. Talked over some of Talleyrand's *mots*; his replying to — (I forget who, some notorious reprobate*), who had said to T., "*Je n'ai fait qu'une seule méchanceté dans ma vie*;" "*Et celle-là*," answered Talleyrand, "*quand finira-t-elle?*" His sitting by M.'s bed when the latter was in great agony,

* Said to be Rivarol.—Ed.

and thought to be dying. "*Je sens les tourmens de l'enfer,*" said M.; "*Déjà?*" asked Talleyrand. Of the same nature was another, on some occasion when M., very ill, had fallen on the floor, and was grasping violently at it with his hands: "*Il veut absolument descendre,*" said T.

4th. Visit from Power. Was soon made sensible of the great injury Rees had done me by declining the arbitration, and declining it too, in such a way as to leave Power still under the impression that there was nothing beyond the mere ordinary course of business in his conduct to me. * * * Dined at Byng's: company, Lord Essex, Sir Francis Burdett, Baron Dedel, the Dutch ambassador, and somebody else, whom I now forget. Dedel a sensible man, and speaks English like an Englishman; the only word he used which betrayed the foreigner was in speaking of the arrangement he is come to effect: "It would be very *desirous* that it should take place." This, too, he has an authority for in Gay, who, in one of Macheath's songs, uses the word in this sense, being forced thereto, however, by the hard necessity of *rhyme*.^{*} In talking of the present state of politics I took an opportunity of saying, that "Whatever excuses might be pleaded for men placed as the Whigs now are for occasionally departing from the principles which they had all their lives professed, it was at least unfortunate for the cause of freedom that they should be driven to any such change, as it could have no other effect than that of bringing all public principle into disrepute." I was rather glad to have this slap at Burdett, and before the Dutchman, too, as it will show him what *little* men in this country can venture to say to *great* ones.

5th. A fine day. Wrote to Rogers to propose we should pass it together, and he answered, "I am delighted; come here early, and let us go to the Zoological Gardens." This I at first declined, as rather a greater *abandon* of the day than I had meditated; but, at last, not being able to resist the sunshine, I sallied out. Found Rogers had just set off to Newton's, and guessed it was to ask

N. and his wife to dinner: got there before him. As I anticipated, he invited them to join us, and they consented. All started together in R.'s carriage for the Zoological, and dined together afterwards. Day altogether very agreeable; and the Newtons proposed the same sort of dinner with them on Monday next, my last day.

6th. Hard at work transcribing notes to swell out my first volume, the second having exceeded it in bulk by near fifty pages.

7th. Staid at home all day to write a preface for my book, but could not please myself. Cut away half, and sent the remainder to the printer. Tom drove with Mrs. Bryan to the park. Dined, both of us, with the Bryans; none but ourselves. On consideration made up my mind to have no preface at all.

8th. Went to the printer's and cancelled preface. Busy with commissions for home. Dinner (Tom and I) at Newton's. N. and his wife sung in the evening, and her singing very agreeable indeed. Her expression and manner of pronouncing in some old duets of my own, very much to my taste. Rogers came away with Tom and me in the evening, and was most kind and amiable. His manner of speaking of my dear Bessy full of cordiality; and it always warms my heart through and through to hear any one do her justice. Saw Bessy's mother before I went home to pack, having first packed Tom off to Paternoster Row. Did not get to bed till late.

9th. Off in the "Emerald" at eight. In stopping to dine at Marlborough was accosted by Talbot's servant, who told me that Lady Valletort was at the inn, on her way to town. Went up to her immediately, and have seldom seen (even in painting) half so beautiful a group as herself, her child, and her pretty Irish nurse presented; each perfect in their several ways, and all *rayonnans* with freshness and good humour. She was on her way to join Lord Valletort, and pay a visit to Windsor (to show the king his little god-son) before they leave England. When this said Irish nurse first came to take charge of the child she asked one of the servants its name, and was told "Mr. Edgecumbe." "Faith then," she answered, "it's the smallest gentleman to be called a *mister* that ever I set my eyes on." Arrived at Devizes between six and seven, and took a chaise home.

* "Fill ev'ry glass, for wine inspires us,
And fires us,
With courage, love, and joy.
Women and wine should life employ;
Is there aught else in life *desirous*?"
Beggars' Opera.

One day I was told that there had been *four* gentlemen inquiring after me, and that they seemed to be foreigners. Poor devils! They were Irishmen; a deputation, from the Committee of the Irish Working Classes in London, to ask me to write an inscription for a piece of plate they are about to present to O'Connell. Sent them an answer to "The Coach and Horses," Hatton Garden, explaining the reasons of my not being able to comply with their request, and (in defiance of the sneers of Brookes's) *praising* O'Connell. By the way, I have forgot to mention that one of the first things I did on coming to town was to call upon this great Bug-a-booo of the Whigs, much to the horror, too, of my *quondam* Radical friend, B. Found him at home, and had some conversation with him. In talking of the Coercion Bill, and the feeling of the House of Commons towards Ireland, he said, "I am now convinced that Repeal wont do, and that it must be Separation." I told him that I had always considered them identical questions, and that my great difficulty in espousing Repeal publicly (that is, in Parliament) would have been to conceal (if I could have concealed) the consciousness, or rather conviction, there is in my mind that one would be followed by the other as naturally and necessarily as night is by day-light.

In one of my conversations with Lord John this time we talked about my forthcoming book, and I explained to him the nature of it, adding that I had not the least doubt in my own mind of the truth of the case I undertook to prove in it, namely, that Popery is in all respects the old original Christianity, and Protestantism a departure from it. In talking of prose-writing one morning with Rogers, he pointed out to me a letter of Lord Essex's (printed in Bacon's works) which Hallam had directed his attention to. Some most admirable writing in it. Must see (for I had then but time to glance over it) whether this is the letter mentioned by Hume.

24th. Made up my mind to write to Sir R. Peel on the subject of the Charter House for my little Russell, though having still less hope of success than ever from Tom having told me that a relative of Peel's has been lately placed on the foundation. Begged of Peel in my letter not to take the trouble of answering if (as I felt pretty sure would be the case) he

should be unable to comply with my request; adding that, giving him every credit for good will on the subject, I would take his silence as a negative.

26th. An answer from Sir Robert of the kindest description; fully justifying the high opinion which (even when most hating his politics) I have unvaryingly entertained of him. The following is the commencement of his letter:—"My dear Sir,—I must say I should have had the greatest personal satisfaction in being enabled to comply with your wishes, for I feel I could not make a worthier use of my Charter House privilege than by nominating the son of one who has done honour to the literature of his country by his genius, and has upheld its character by a high spirit of integrity and independence." He then mentions his having so recently nominated the son of a relative of his own, but expresses a strong wish and hope that it may be in his power, by some arrangement or other, to make his next turn of appointment available towards my object. This opens, at least, a chance for my little Russell; for I remember some years since General Bathurst being very anxious to exchange a *present* appointment (which his son was not then old enough to accept) for the promise of a *future* one, and something of this kind may turn up for my Russell. At all events, it is most kind, liberal, and high-minded conduct on the part of Peel.

Had a strange letter from a man about the Irish Round Towers, saying that he, and he alone, has found out their whole secret history, and will communicate it to me for my present work, *moyennant une bonne somme d'argent*. A second letter from him, offering to come and pass a month with me, or more, if occasion should require; during which time he will make me master of the whole birth, parentage, and *bringing up* of the Irish Round Towers, asking of me only (in addition to the honour of his visit) one hundred guineas for the same!

May 1st to 19th. At work, and little else.

20th. Bowles called with Hughes on his way to Devizes, and we asked him to return and dine, which he did. Very amusing and good-humoured about my theology, about Miss Martineau, about Lord Henley, &c. &c. Have not for a long time laughed so much.

24th. After breakfast went to Upham's to look over his catalogue, and found some books

useful to me in my Irish task, which I brought away with me. Started for Buckhill (where Bessy and son were to meet me with the car) at three. Dined there, and home in the evening. Our dear Tom's improvement, in every way, is most delightful to us, and never did we enjoy his company (nor he, to all appearance, ours) half so much as we have done these holidays.

June 1st to 8th. To dinner at Hughes's in Devizes: company, Dr. Thackeray (the provost of King's College, Cambridge), young Phipps, and Mr. and Mrs. de Bouilly. Talking of strange texts for sermons, the following were mentioned: "Take it by the tail," from Exodus ("Put forth thine hand and take it by the tail"); the argument founded upon it being that we must judge of God's providence by the event; "Old shoes and clouted" (Joshua ix.), which I forget what the preacher made of; and "Top not come down," from Matthew ("Let him which is in the house-top not come down"), which was taken as a text for a sermon against ladies' top-knots.

25th. Our Dublin friend, Meara, arrived unexpectedly from London. Walked him over to Spye Park, where he had a good specimen of English heartiness and hospitality in their very kind attentions to him, their anxiety that he should stay and dine, their offer of the curicle to take him to Bowood, &c. I was glad that he should return to Ireland with a better impression than the "heartlessness" (as he calls it) of London had left upon him. Dined with us, and returned to Devizes in the evening.

26th. Started for Bath (Bessy, Russ, and myself), on our way to visit the Napiers and Houltons. Called upon Mrs. Crawford, and sang over to her some of the words I have written to her pretty Russian airs. Met M. at Upham's, and had some curious opinions from him on the subject of my "Irish Gentleman," which he was then engaged in the perusal of. Said "it would be the text-work of the Christian world in some half century hence." Praised the style of it very warmly; but remarked upon what he considered an Irishism, and what Burke himself, he added, had fallen into,—my saying the "*three first centuries*," the "*four first centuries*," &c., instead of the "*first three*," the "*first four*," &c. Told him, however, that it was not inadvertently nor *Irishly* that I had fallen into this mode of expression, but from

deliberately thinking (whether rightly or wrongly, I could not be sure) that it was the true English idiom. For instance, every one says "the two first cantos of '*Childe Harold*,'" meaning the two cantos that come first, or are placed first. I recollect having a little struggle with Simmons, my valuable typograph, on this very point, as he wanted to make it "first two cantos," but I held out stoutly for the other way. Whether I am right or not can't say. On to Napier's.

28th. People to dinner from Bath; to wit, General Mina, Madame Aguada, a pretty Spanish woman, who teaches music and languages at Bath, and Mr. and Mrs. Soden.

29th. An impudent trick in to-day's "*Standard*," but I must say (though myself the victim of it) not a bad one. The fellows have pretended to think that some *very* trashy verses which have appeared in the "*Times*" (why admitted there I know not) are *mine*, and have shown them up with all their might. What makes it more provoking is, that I must bear it all *sans réplique*, as to put in a disavowal of *these* verses would be in some degree to acknowledge others. Napier very anxious to stimulate me to something vigorous on the occasion; but the true strength on such occasions is to keep quiet. Removed bag and baggage to Farleigh, where we had at dinner a rector and his lady, and a young curate. Speaking of the *horreurs* which are sometimes told as exhibited in Paris, I said it would be found, I thought, on inquiry, that *Englishmen* are, in nine cases out of ten, the chief promoters and spectators of such abominations. The Italians have a sort of proverb which says (as well as I can recollect it),—

"Inglese Italianato
È un diavolo incarnato;

and certainly the manner in which this "most moral of all nations" breaks loose when abroad is quite frightful.

July 1st to 5th. Left Farleigh for home about twelve, the Houltons sending their carriage on with us to Melksham, where we took a fly. On the 5th Mrs. Napier and Fanny arrived to pass some days with us, in the hope that the change of air may do poor Fanny some good.

6th to 13th. On the 12th or 13th the Napiers left us. The sight of the poor girl every day made me melancholy, by bringing back

some most sad recollections. Read plays to her two or three evenings, which seemed to give her great pleasure. Received a letter (accompanying a copy of his lately published work) from Dr. Rock, a Catholic divine, full of the most enthusiastic praises of my book.

14th to 31st. Nothing else of any importance this month.

August 2nd. Set off for town, partly as a little change of scene, and partly for the despatch of some business which could not be so well managed at a distance. Alone all the way, and employed myself in polishing some verses I have written to Russian airs. Went to the Fieldings, where I had been kindly offered house-room. Found them at dinner, in order to be early enough at the French play. After dining with them called upon Bessy's mother; thence to Brookes's and home early to bed.

3rd. Went to the Charter House; saw Saunders, the master, who gave me a very good account of Tom, and took the trouble of calculating the periods of the different nominations for the next few years, in order to see what was my chance of getting Russell on the foundation. It appeared that, even if I could not effect an exchange in the intermediate time, Peel's turn for a nomination will recur sufficiently soon to enable him to appoint Russell. This very agreeable intelligence I of course communicated, by letter, to mamma.

4th. Breakfasted with Rogers, and went afterwards to the Warwick Street Chapel; a fine mass of Haydn's, but the female voices wretched. Joined there by Tom, with whom I walked about. Took him to Lausdowne House, and saw Lady L. Were both with Rogers at four to go dine at Highbury (his sister's). Drove to Regent's Park; told of Coleridge riding about in a strange shabby dress, with I forget whom, at Keswick, and on some company approaching them, Coleridge offered to fall behind and pass for his companion's servant. "No," said the other, "I am proud of you as a friend; but, I must say, I should be ashamed of you as a servant." Called for one of Rogers's married sisters on our way, and had a very agreeable dinner at Highbury, taking care that Tom should be off early enough in the evening for the Charter House hours.

5th. Called at Sir Robert Peel's and just

missed him, but saw and sat some time with Lady Peel. Showed me Haydn's picture of Napoleon at Elba: something fine in the simplicity and solitariness of it; nothing but the man, the rock, and the sea. Left a message for Sir Robert, which she very willingly and kindly undertook, telling him the state of the future presentations at the Charter House, and the good chance there was in prospect for my little Russell, if he (Sir R.) should find that it was in his power to appoint him. Went afterwards to the Speaker's, and found Mrs. Speaker herself and Billy Holmes at their wine: the Speaker having just left them to go into the House.

7th. Breakfasted at Brookes's, and received there a young American, Mr. Ritchie, who brought me a letter of introduction from Washington Irving. After saying in it that he had been on a tour to some of their most wild and beautiful scenes, Irving adds that he has settled himself in a snug rural box of his own, and that Mrs. Moore will, he is sure, be rejoiced to hear that he has got in the neighbourhood of Sleepy Hollow. This is in allusion to Bessy having often laughed at him for his habit of falling asleep after dinner.

8th. Sat to Moore. Took Mrs. Bryan and Mrs. George to see Rogers's house, and was astonished myself at the variety and rarity of his treasures. He had very kindly left out some of his most beautiful and precious things for us to look at, and the ladies were enchanted. Dressed early to go with Lady Elizabeth Fielding to dine at Richmond with the Lansdownes. Sauntered about the grounds and wrote letters before dinner: company, the Lord Chancellor (Brougham), Lord Melbourne, Lord Auckland, the two Villierses, Smyth, and ourselves. The day dull enough. Lord Melbourne laughs *more* and *at less* than ever. Wm. Smyth rather amused us, for lack of better, with an account of the last scientific meeting at Cambridge, and his complaints of some hard-hearted Irish orators who *would* speak, though the dinner was waiting and spoiling. The *naïveté* with which he dwelt on the importance of the dinner was excellent. * * * I may, perhaps, speak from *jealousy* of his powers, for he has done me the favour of writing all the "Irish Melodies" over again for the world. For instance, "The Minstrel Boy" goes thus in his version—

"Then, soldier, come, fill high the wine,
For we reckon not of to-morrow," &c.

One of the verses is in the following poetic strain—

"Driveller to be in my fire-side chair,
With saws and tales unheeded;
A tottering thing of aches and care,
No longer lov'd or needed."

As nobody would mind or sing *my* "Go where glory waits thee," he has kindly supplied the air with such rhymes as the following:—

"Oh! thou hapless soldier,
Left alone to moulder (*mouldier* I)."

And "Eveline's Bower" is thus moralised by the Professor—

"I am bow'd down with years,
And fast flow my tears,
But I wander, I mourn not, your pity to win:
'Tis not age, want, or care,
I could poverty bear," &c. &c.

In the same improving spirit he has turned the song "Avenging and bright fell the swift sword of Erin" into—

"Oh who, my dear Dermot, has dar'd to deceive thee?"

And "The Valley lay smiling before me" is, in his *rifacimento*, thus—

"Oh, would I were but that sweet linnet,
That I had my apple tree too;
Could sit all the sunny day on it,
With nothing but singing to do!"

9th. Breakfasted with Rogers. Went and looked over books at the Museum for two or three hours, having agreed to dine and go to Vauxhall with R. He took me first to the British Gallery to see the triple exhibition of Reynolds, West, and Lawrence; and never was there a more fatal juxtaposition than that of Reynolds beside Lawrence is to the latter: it amounts almost to a deathblow to his fame. After reading at the Museum (book about Ireland) went to sit to Moore. Dined with Rogers and Wilkie, and about eleven R. and I (gay young fellows!) sallied forth for Vauxhall. Met there the Clanricardes, and sat with them to see the fireworks. Have taken my place in the "Emerald" for Monday next.

Forgot to mention that one of these mornings I called upon Lord John, and sat some time with him. Told me that he was going to Ireland as soon as Parliament was up, with Lord Ebrington. Spoke a good deal of Peel; it was owing to him that the Tories did not press their late opposition so far as to defeat the Ministers in the House of Lords. The old

eager ones, * * very angry with him, said, "It's all very well for Peel to take this line: he is still young and has a large fortune, and so can wait; but *we*, &c." This is in the true spirit of blind and reckless place-seekers. Lord J. seemed to think the Ministry in smooth water now for some time to come.

11th. Breakfasted at Moore's, to meet the famous and anonymous caricaturist H. B.; a brother-in-law of his also of the party. H. B. (who is an Irish artist) a very sensible and gentlemanlike person, and it was not a little interesting to hear his history of the course of his *anonymy*, the guesses, risks of discovery, &c. Told him of Rogers, Wilkie, and myself having been employed the night before in looking over his caricatures, and comparing them with Gilray's. He was evidently anxious to know what Wilkie thought of them, and I told him pretty nearly the general result of our comparison; which was that, with the exception of one or two things ("George the Third with Napoleon on his hand" being of the number) we all agreed that there was a quiet power about his caricatures, producing as they did their effect without either extravagance or ill-nature, which set them, in a very important respect, far above Gilray's.

12th. Off at eight. Met a very agreeable fellow-traveller in Miss Wyatt, whom I had seen once before at Devizes. Found dear Bess and Tom waiting for me at Devizes, with the car.

13th. Archery meeting. Lady Lansdowne offered to take us; but Bessy, wishing to be there early for the shooting, preferred our own fly and *one* to the Marchioness's coach and four. My voice completely gone with cold; could not speak above a whisper. By the secretary's wish, took Lady Lansdowne in to dinner, and sat between her and Lady T. Hale, the lady patroness. Glad to get home at night, being in but bad tune for a fête.

14th to 16th. On this last day Rees arrived to pay us a visit. Were about to go to a picnic on Roundaway, but, on receiving his letter by the morning's post announcing himself, it was decided that Bessy alone should go. Arrived at dinner hour.

24th. Bessy returned from Freshford, bringing with her Napier. Napier full of my book (the "Travels").

27th to 30th. Have not had time to jour-

nalise. Busy at my History ; at "Irish Melodies;" at an article for the "Edinburgh," &c. &c. My singing voice, I grieve to say, not yet returned.

31st. Letter from Lord John Russell, telling me that he was at last actually going to Ireland, and asking me to join him there in a trip to Killarney and return by Dublin. This a most tempting offer, and under any other circumstances but the present I should have jumped at it ; but money and time both run short with me,—bills coming in at Christmas, and my History *due* at the same time ; what was I to do ? My dear generous Bessy all anxiety that I should go ; and enumerated all the little businesses I could transact, to show that it would be well worth my while. Took time to consider, and wrote to Lord John for further particulars. In his letter Lord John says very good-humouredly, "You may be as patriotic as you please (during our journey) about the 'First Flower of the Earth, &c. ;' indeed, your being a rebel may somewhat atone for my being a cabinet minister."

September 5th. Dined at Bowood, Bessy and myself, to meet the Bowleses and Fieldings. Madame M. there also. Day very agreeable. The Lansdownes' carriage, which had taken us, brought us back again. Bowles in a most amusing mood during the evening, showing himself up with a degree of *abandon* which convulsed us all with laughter. His account of his course of education at Strasbourg, where he was for a short time when young ; his having learnt French fortification, and the *pierres gravées* (*peer gravvy*, as he pronounced it) ; and the specimens he gave us of his proficiency in these two branches of learning, French and the peer gravvy, beyond measure laughable. Fixed to go with him on Saturday to Stonehenge, a long-projected expedition.

6th. Bowles called to make some alterations in our arrangement for Saturday (tomorrow), and was evidently uneasy at the exhibition he made of himself yesterday evening ; but I assured him that nothing could be more delightful, and that such playfulness and *bonhomie* could leave no other impression behind than that of pleasure, which is very nearly the truth.

7th. Bowles called for us in his carriage about nine, when we all set off together, Tom

riding. At Ledway, four miles beyond Devizes, we found B.'s pony-carriage, which had been sent on there last night ; and in that we proceeded to Stonehenge. It was my first time of seeing this "noblest ornament of Albion's isle," as Warton calls it, and the impression of its grandeur rather *grew* upon me than struck me all at once ; which I find is the course its effect takes with most people. Found some sensible Quakers there, with whom we had some conversation, and one of them mentioned his having lately taken an American gentleman there, making him keep his eyes shut till he got directly under the highest stones. But the American, on looking up, merely said, "What do you mean by this ?" and saw nothing wonderful in it. The same person, however, when they took him to Salisbury Cathedral, was overwhelmed with admiration and astonishment at it. The fact is, that it is *art* surprises the Americans : *nature* they have on the grandest scale themselves : and stones so little removed from a state of nature as those at Stonehenge (however wonderfully they may be placed) have but little of new or marvellous for him who has seen the rocks beyond the Atlantic, and has ever sailed in a tall ship (as this American said he had done) under a natural arch of rock. But the wonders of *art* they are wholly unaccustomed to—the combination of size and space with laborious ornament and elegance ; and therefore is it that Salisbury would carry it hollow with them against Stonehenge. Dined at the "Bustard," well and cheaply, and taking the carriage again at Ledway, were conveyed back comfortably by our Reverend *Vetturino*, reaching home before eight o'clock. Nothing could be managed better or more agreeably than the whole journey ; Bowles and I talking Druidical learning the whole way, much to Bessy's edification and amusement.

8th. Wrote to Lord Lansdowne, at Hughes's request, on the subject of his son. Received a letter from Lord John from Holyhead, whither mine, which I sent to the Foreign Office, had followed him. The violent winds had induced him to change his route ; and had I known this, and been able to join him in England, the thing would have been more feasible, as I might have staid in Dublin during the greater part of his visit to the south ; and thus (be-

sides seeing my dear Nell) have turned my time in Dublin to some account (in the *book way*), which would have reconciled me to the waste of time and money otherwise. Made up my mind, with great reluctance, to decline joining him. I had told him, in my letter, of Mrs. Moore's anxiety that I should go; and he says in his answer that it only confirms the opinion he always entertained of her amiability.

9th. A note from Lord Lansdowne just before he started, in which he says that if I should make up my mind to go to Ireland, and will join him at Limerick, he will take me on to Lord Duncannon's, and from thence bring me, by Lord Cawdor's, home. All very tempting; but I had made up my mind *not*, and accordingly wrote to Lord John to say so.

10th to 18th. One of these days had a visit from an Irish priest, who brought me an introduction from Ellen; a very interesting and intelligent little man, and armed at all points in theology; full of praise and surprise at my book.

20th to 22nd. Nothing. Received a letter from Lord John from Bessborough, saying he was expecting me, and that Lord and Lady Duncannon would be most happy to see me. * * * * A letter from Lord John from Cork, beginning "Dear Captain Rock," and saying that I was very wrong in not joining him, but that he was himself very much to blame for it in not giving me earlier and clearer notice of his intentions. Received some short time ago a letter from a gentleman at New Orleans, informing me that a manuscript had come into his hands at the sale of some deceased Englishman's effects, which was evidently written by some one concerned in the Revolution of 1688, and which he thought curious and valuable. His wish was to present it to some public institution in England, as from a friend to the historical literature of that country; and as soon as he received my answer he should transmit it to me for this purpose. The tone, style, and subject of the letter are such as one could have little expected from New Orleans. Though singling me out as the channel for his gift, there is not a word of the usual flattery about "genius," "high reputation," &c.; but coming at once, simply and intelligibly, to the point, he leaves his rea-

sons for addressing *me* on the subject to speak for themselves. This struck me, both from its singularity and its good taste. Have received within these few days another transatlantic letter from Washington, written by a gentleman who signs himself member of the Asiatic, Geographical, and Anthropological Society of Paris, late United States Consul General for the Empire of Morocco, &c. &c. Notwithstanding this battery of titles, his letter is both intelligently and modestly written; his chief object being to request my aid in collecting autographs for him among our great men for some library at Washington. After mentioning that there are several cenotaphs erecting or about to be erected throughout America to Byron and Scott, he proceeds to say: "The feeling produced in this country by your 'Satires' has long been consigned to oblivion from the great pleasure and instruction derived from the perusal of your other productions; and where your effigy would once have been burnt, your eulogy (if you were to die to-morrow) would be pronounced by the most competent man in the States."

October 1st. Dined at Merewether's, his daughter and Miss Macdonald having called to fetch me. Bessy not well enough to go. His grounds pretty, and the day delicious. Nothing, indeed, can equal in the way of weather the days that are now passing over us. I sit out in the garden from breakfast till dinner-time, with my books and papers about me. Walked about with Merewether before dinner. Company, the Bowleses, Macdonalds, and Salmons, Heneage, and an old Dr. Hawes. Sat next to Bowles luckily. He had shown me, before dinner, a letter he had just received from his friend Archbishop Howley, in answer to one he had written to him on the subject of the Mausoleum at Bowood, which Lady Lansdowne wishes to have consecrated, a step at which, it seems, the Bishop of Salisbury hesitates. After saying that he sees no objection to the consecration, the archbishop proceeds to speak of the aspect of the times, which he declares to be not a little lowering (meaning, in respect to the Church), and adds, "For myself, I can say with Latinus, *Mihi parva est quies, omnisque in littore portus!*" Bowles had read the name of this author Latinensis; but I saw it was Latinus, and found on reference to "Morhofius," when I came home, that

the archbishop's classic is Latinus Latinus, a Catholic divine of the sixteenth century, who wrote, among other things, Latin poems, and is lauded as a very honest man by Lipsius. In speaking of Sir W. Petty's double-bottomed ship, which was meant to be capable of sailing against wind and tide, but which, after one successful voyage, went down, Bowles told me that the last Lord Lansdowne thought he had found out why the contrivance had failed, and constructed a ship accordingly, which he put to sea in himself from Southampton, asking Bowles to accompany him! He had persuaded a German and a Frenchman to accompany him, and as the ship sailed from the shore, the people on the beach cried, "She'll be over; she'll be over; she is over, by G—d!" which was actually the case, the ship having capsized before they got many yards from the shore, the noble inventor and his companions being thrown out into the mud, where, to make the ridicule the greater, Lord Lansdowne began to speechify to the German and Frenchman, making a thousand apologies for having brought them into that condition. A good many jokes of Jekyll told. Mr. Salmon mentioned having heard Jekyll make a quotation in one of his speeches, which he could never trace to its source. The subject was, the employment of *two* physicians instead of *one*, as a means of making death *doubly* sure. The one physician was compared to a single scull, in rowing—

"But two physicians, like a *pair* of oars,
Waft us more swiftly to the Stygian shores."

* * * Returned at night in a fly.

2nd to 6th. A visit one of these days from Lord Lansdowne: sat some time with me. A good deal of conversation. Asked whether I was not surprised at Lord Wellesley's wishing to take the government of Ireland again. Never saw Lord L. in better spirits, and as kind and agreeable as, to do him justice, he always is. Franked some letters for me; one acknowledging a civility from the new manager of the two great theatres, Mr. Bunn, who lately wrote to me to say that he had placed my name on the free list of both houses. * * *

7th. A good deal of talk about politics after breakfast. In talking of the lord-lieutenancy of Ireland Lord Lansdowne said, "If I were to consent to take it, it would be on the condition of having much more power placed in my hands than (looking archly and laughing at me) you

would be inclined to give me." I answered that, on the contrary, I thought an autocrat could alone do what was wanting in Ireland, and that there were few hands I would so readily trust with the autocracy as his: but still there was some smashing work to be done, which I feared he would rather shrink from; the Church, for instance, which must go by the board to have any peace in Ireland. He then pointed out strongly and fairly the difficulty, and still more, as he thought, the injustice, of dealing so summarily with an establishment which had grown up under the auspices and encouragement of England, and round which so large, wealthy, and respectable a portion of the population rallied. All this I could not but grant to him, so that, in fact, hopelessness, utter hopelessness, seems the only result one ever arrives at in considering Ireland's miseries; it has been the burthen of her sad song from the first, and will be to the last.

14th. A visit from Lord Kerry, who has just returned from his Norwegian trip. Came to tell me that Lady Lansdowne would send the car for me. Went in it only as far as the "George," and walked the rest. Company (besides John and Mrs. Starkey), Serjeant Merewether, and two barristers (who are come to Calne on a commission),—the Belgian minister Van De Weyer, and two ladies, artists, who have come to copy some of the Bowood pictures. An odd assemblage, but not unamusing. Some talk about the antiquities of Wiltshire after dinner, Van De Weyer having been employed in reading Button during the morning, and being full of Wansdyke and the "Belgic boundary." Miller talked of Rammohun Roy; some difficulties, as it appears, about disposing of his remains, so as not to interfere with the Indian law of caste. Strange that he should have kept caste while alive, considering all the un-Brahminical things he has done; crossing the forbidden river in the first place, and then turning Unitarian Christian in the second. If this makes no difference in a Brahmin's orthodoxy, it's all over with the *Veds*. Miller mentioned some of the cases of caste that come before the law courts in India: and one was where a man in giving a dinner left out some particular person, and this person immediately brought an action against the entertainer, on the ground that such a slight was likely to endanger his right of caste. Lord Lansdowne

mentioned having been once at a lecture of Owen's, at the time when he first began his operations; and there were among his auditors, on this occasion, besides bishops and archbishops, one of the royal princes, the Duke of Gloucester, I believe. For the purpose of better explaining his views of society, Owen had prepared small pieces of metal of different sizes, to represent the various classes of the community and the relative value which they bore as parts of the whole, and began by apologising to the illustrious duke for the very small bit of metal that represented royalty on the occasion.

15th. Before breakfast Lord Kerry came in to my room with some Norwegian songs he promised to show me. Read over a translation of them to me, while I traced the sense through the original, and the similarity of a number of words to the English was far closer than I could have conceived. A party after breakfast to the Wansdyke to show it to Van De Weyer, but I did not accompany them, having to occupy myself in the library. Bobus Smith arrived to luncheon; full of agreeable knowledge and conversation. In talking of the two races into which mankind are generally divided, the Celt and Goth, seemed to think that the Scandinavian was a race distinct from both; but there is no end to the variety and confusion of the hypotheses on the subject. The company at dinner all the better for being *plus* by Smith, and *minus* by some of yesterday's folk. The Belgian said that one of the worst names you could call any body (in Belgium, I think) was *un hibou quarré*. Lord L. owned he should not like to be called a *hibou quarré*.

Mentioned also an action brought by some one against another for calling him *un indigne*, and, it having appeared on the trial that the plaintiff had called defendant *un être*, the judge decided that they were *sur un pied d'égalité* with each other. Lord L. told of some old woman who was shocked at being called a "noun-substantive." The caller of names had tried all possible terms of reproach—"wretch," "old devil," &c. &c., but nothing produced any effect till the word "noun-substantive" was applied; the *ignotum pro horifico* was then fully exemplified. In talking of the general spread of information and of a certain degree of artificial cleverness that is now

in progress, which will ultimately raise the whole of society to the same level, and render *distinction* a rare phenomenon, Smith told of a conversation he had once with Talleyrand on this point. Referring to the number of clever men, in all walks, that used to appear in France, he asked "*Qu'est-elle devenue cette classe d'hommes de lettres?*" "*Vous voulez que je vous dise* (answered Talleyrand) *ce qu'elle est devenue; elle est devenue tout le monde.*" This was well said and true; but what is ultimately to come of such a state of things it is hard to conjecture. In talking of Frere, Smith told a *mot* of his I had not heard before. Madame de — having said, in her intense style, "I should like to be married in *English*, in a language in which vows are so faithfully kept," some one asked Frere, "What language, I wonder, was *she* married in?" "*Broken English*, I suppose," answered Frere. Sung a little in the evening.

16th. Some agreeable conversation after breakfast with Smith and Lord Lansdowne. In talking of O'Connell, of the mixture there is in him of high and low, formidable and contemptible, mighty and mean, Smith summed up all by saying, "The only way to deal with such a man is to hang him up and erect a statue to him under his gallows." This *balancing* of the account is admirable. Told of Lord Camelford taking an old fiddler with him to Tom's (a place where, during the times of Jacobinism, the Radical fellows used to assemble at night), and having planted his musician in a corner, taking his seat by him and saying, "There, now play God save the King." In a small minority there was on one occasion for peace, upon a question moved by Lord Grey, the name of Lord Camelford was, to the astonishment of everybody, found among the peace-seekers; but it turned out that he had, for some offence, challenged a German officer who refused to fight him till *after* the war, and he therefore felt himself bound, in spite of his political opinions, to vote for peace.

This leading to some talk about duelling, I remarked that one of the worst things, perhaps, O'Connell had done for Ireland, was his removing, by his example, that restraint which the responsibility of one man to another under the law of duelling imposed, and which in a country so little advanced in civilization as Ireland, was absolutely necessary. We

see accordingly that the tone of society there is every day growing lower and lower, and men bear blackguarding from each other in a way that to an Irishman of the good old school, or to a real gentleman of *any* school, seems inconceivable. In all this they both agreed with me, and said that to the existence of the code of honour introduced by duelling we owed very much the great difference between the moderns and the ancients in the good breeding and decorum of manners in social life. What personal abuse, for instance, what blackguarding (as it would now be deemed), Cicero indulged in towards his adversaries! Walked home.

23rd. To Bowood: walked. Company at dinner, the Listers, the Fieldings, Mr. Tottenham, young Villiers, and Mr. Grenville. Day very agreeable: sung in the evening. Asked Mr. Grenville about the Irish MS. which Lord Holland told me he had, relating to the Brehon laws (had already seen by a note in O'Connor's book that he had given it to the library at Stowe). Said that it was still at Stowe; that he had sent an order to have it purchased for him at the sale of Count Macarty's books at Paris, and had commissioned his agent to go as far as 10*l.*, but got it, I think, for 4*l.* O'Connor all in raptures at the sight of it, on finding that it was on the subject of the Brehon laws: but, on examining further into its contents, met with so many unintelligible law words and ancient phrases as made it almost a matter of despair to think of translating it; meant, however, to do what he could with it, but died soon after.

24th. At breakfast Mr. Grenville told some amusing things. In talking of Baron de Rolle (a follower of the exiled Bourbons), whom I met a good deal at Donington Park, told of De Rolle when on a visit at the Staffords', Lady Stafford wishing, one day, to get rid of him, pointing to a mountain at a distance which she told him was very curious, and advising him to go and see it: "*Vous aurez un petit cabriolet, et cela sera fort agréable!*" "*Ah! Miladi,*" replied De Rolle, holding up his hands in a supplicatory posture, "*Je suis, Suisse: j'ai tant vu de montagnes!*"

Mentioned as a good trait of Bourbon character that, when Charles Dix was at one time shooting in Lincolnshire, whenever they came

to any of those wet ditches or pools which abound there, and the rest of the party were floundering through as well as they could, a *chasseur* who attended the Comte d'Artois always stepped forward, and, laying himself down as a bridge across the puddle, was walked over by his royal master as unconcernedly as if he was a plank made expressly for such purposes.

Read Whitaker's "Manchester," and Richard of Cirencester's "Itinerary:" then took a walk to Spye Park, and wrote, *chemin faisant*, a verse of my "Irish Melody." The same party to dinner as yesterday. Talked of the Americans; the aristocratic distinctions they have among themselves, and their looking up to what they call "the high social class." A story Cooper (the novelist) told Lord Lansdowne, as a proof of their passion for races. In their anxiety, on this occasion, for the success of a favourite horse which had failed for want of a good rider, they looked round for some one worthy to mount him, and fixed on an eminent bank director at Philadelphia, who was famous for his good riding. A deputation waited upon him; he declined, but they were resolved to have him at all events, and a purse was made up by subscription, which, being of a large amount, the bank director could not resist it, and accordingly rode and won the prize. This story from Cooper, of all people! What would he have said or done, if it had been told in England by any one else? Lord L. mentioned also, that on one occasion, when Cooper dined with him, some one (whose name he would not give us) had the bad taste to relate before Cooper a circumstance which he said had been told to him as having occurred once in Congress. This was, that in the warmth of discussion one of the members walked across the floor, and spat in another's face. Cooper acknowledged that the story was true, but said, rather indignantly, "You should have added, however, in justice, that though he certainly did spit in his face, the other immediately knocked him down." Evening altogether very agreeable. Asked Fielding about the best word for *aditus* in translating what Tacitus says of the *portus et aditus* of Ireland being better than those of England; whether the "waters" was not better than the "approaches," and he said, "Certainly."

25th. After breakfast walked home, having

promised after some struggle to come again to-morrow. Found Bess returned from Spye Park, where she has been while I have been away. Delivered to her Lady L.'s pressing request that she would go there to dinner to-morrow and sleep; but my dear girl, from some difficulties about her toilette, and in fact from not being well enough for the effort, made up her mind not to go.

29th. Off at half-past ten by the "Emerald." On my arrival had a mutton chop and negus at Brooke's. My lodging at Sackville Street (which Fielding has again kindly accommodated me with) most comfortably ready to receive me.

30th. Disappointed of having Tom, the boys now not being allowed to come out on Wednesdays. Dined at Longman's: company, McCulloch, Dr. Lardner, and a Mr. Murray. Talking of Professor Leslie; his review of some voyage of Humboldt's, in which the latter expresses great regret at not having had with him Leslie's differential thermometer: "Most sincerely do we join in this regret of Mr. Humboldt," writes the Reviewer. In talking of Sir W. Scott's rapid and careless manner of writing, Lardner mentioned that, in sending to him (Lardner) the MS. of his "History of Scotland," he begged that he would be so kind as to "throw in a few dates and authorities."

31st. Asked by Lord Essex to dinner. Company at Lord Essex's, Le Marchant, Grenfell, Rich, &c. Le M. told some stories of Erskine, rather amusing. His being sent for on some important case tried in the country; arriving the evening before the trial and finding Serjeant —, the counsel who sent for him, waiting dinner for him. The Serjeant anxiously endeavouring to explain to him the merits of the cause; but Erskine impatient of his learned brother's prosing, and apparently much more interested in discussing several bottles of wine, which they finished between them. The Serjeant's uneasiness next morning; his sense of the responsibility he had taken upon himself in bringing down Erskine, and his panic at the failure which he thought could not but take place from Erskine's total ignorance of the case. Then his joyful surprise in court, at the luminous statement which broke forth from Erskine, showing that he had, at once, fathomed the whole

question from the few hints to which he had the night before so impatiently listened; the complete triumph of the cause, and the gratitude of the party concerned to the Serjeant for calling in the aid of such a man.

November 1st. Dined at Holland House: company, Lord Melbourne, Charles and Lady Mary Fox, Le Marchant, and Bacourt, the French secretary. Some talk with Allen, after dinner, about my History. Suggested to me to dwell strongly on the causes which led to the cruelties of the Danes both in England and Ireland, namely, the resentment and hatred to Christianity excited in them by the barbarous conduct of Charlemagne towards the Saxons, with whom they made common cause. Recommended me to read Sismondi on this subject. Spoke of the system of clanship as the source of most of the evils of Ireland to this day; the Scotch, though once deeply imbued with the same principle, got rid of it, luckily for themselves, much earlier. The Teutonic tribes free from this spirit of clanship, and have prospered accordingly. Allen's well-known hatred of the Celts breaking out at every word. Spoke of Thierry's book; his account of the descent of William and the Normans well worth attending to. Talk with Lord Holland and Bacourt about Thierry and the other late French historians; how much the French have done in that line, and how well; the only department in literature, however, in which anything good has been done of late.

2nd. Some conversation after breakfast in the library. Found them inclined to decry Wordsworth, and said what I thought of his great powers, and of the injustice this age does him. "Ah, this is talking for candour," said Lady Holland. Soon after, taking a volume of Crabbe from one of the shelves, Lord Melbourne said, "I see there is a new edition of Crabbe coming out; it is a good thing when these authors die, for then one gets their works, and has done with them." Though this sounds insolent when written, it was said with so joyous and jovial an air, followed by that scarcely human though cheerful laugh of Lord Melbourne's, with his ejaculations "Eh! eh!" interposed at every burst, that it was impossible not to enjoy it as much as himself. On quoting to Allen at dinner what a French cabriolet-man once said to me,

that in England "*les soldats ne sont jamais pour le peuple*," Allen said, "On one great occasion they were." "Yes," I replied; "*Lillibulero*:" on which Allen said, not badly, "What different associations people remember events by! Most men couple the memory of the Revolution with the rights then acquired; Moore remembers it by a tune." I have generously put his joke in a better form for him than he gave it himself.

3rd. Went early to Mereweather's for the purpose of consulting him on my business with Power, having brought up the accounts, &c. with a view to having it settled somehow or other. Breakfasted with him, and talked over the whole matter. Advised me to lose no time in writing to Power on the subject. Seemed to think that my letter (May 1st, 1832), declaring myself satisfied with the accounts, would be fatal to me in a court of law, where the letter with which I had followed it up, on looking more accurately into the items, could not be produced; a jury would go no further. Wrote to Power, in the course of the day, to say that I had come up to town with some musical works for publication, but did not like to take any step towards that object till I had learned from him whether he was inclined to enter into a fair and equitable settlement of the differences between us. Dined at Byng's, who kindly asked Tom also: company, the two Dedels, Rich, and Luttrell. Luttrell's story of some Irish lady who had been travelling with her family, and on being asked whether they had been at Aix, answered, "Oh, yes! indeed; very much at our *ase* everywhere." Dedel told of the wife of some ambassador (I forget her name*) coming to dinner, and on her passing to the ante-room where Talleyrand was standing, he looked up and exclaimed significantly, "Ah!" In the course of the dinner, the lady having asked him across the table why he had uttered the exclamation of oh! on her entrance, Talleyrand, with a grave, self-vindictory look, answered, "*Madame, je n'ai pas dit oh! j'ai dit ah!*" Comical, very, without one's being able to define *why* it is so.

4th. Mereweather having advised that I should get Rees to arbitrate for me in case Power consented to such an arrangement,

* Not the wife of an ambassador, but the Duchesse de Grammont, sister of the Duc de Choiseul.—Ed.

went down to Paternoster Row, and begged of Rees to call upon Mereweather at his chambers on the subject, which he promised to do, declaring himself most ready to be employed in any way that would be serviceable to me. Letter from Clarke, Power's solicitor, to say that Power consented to an arbitration. Dined at Bryan's: no one but the George Bryans, and two young Irishmen, one of them, of the name of H., with some Irish drollery about him, as he proved by two or three imitations of Lord Blayney after dinner. His speech at a public meeting, proposing some person's health, and concluding with "I have only to add, Sir, that the Blayney steam packet sails to-morrow morning, with good accommodation for passengers, and all particulars about passage, &c. are to be heard of So and so." This packet was a speculation chiefly of my Lord's, which he took that opportunity of puffing, and the imitation of his manner of speaking was altogether very droll.

5th. Dined with George Keppel: company, Captain Ross (the nephew), Pigeon, Cockerell, and Stevenson. Ross gave us a few interesting particulars of the late expedition; the manner in which they saw the savages amputate a man's leg above the knee, seating him on the ice with the leg through a hole in it, and then knocking him down so as to snap off the limb; the revolting ugliness and filth of the women: did not find the time hang heavy; the interest they took in their nightly observations occupied their minds. On one occasion they were all conversing together, and each man was required to tell what was the most extraordinary thing that had ever happened to him; one of the party mentioned, as the most memorable thing in his life, his having once shaved the Duke of Devonshire. "Well, but you were at the battle of Waterloo?" Yes, he *had* been; but still the shaving of the Duke of Devonshire seemed to be uppermost in his mind. It was probably during the Duke's voyage to Petersburg that this great event took place. Some conversation concerning the signs of the times, in which all seemed to be of opinion that some great and awful crisis was approaching in England, and those who took the most sanguine view of the matter did not deny that there was every appearance of a total change

in our institutions, but thought that the country would subside quietly and by common consent into it. In the evening, all to the theatre.

9th. Had Tom out from the Charter House, and walked about with him a little. Dined at Lockhart's. Had asked Murray whether Lockhart would have any objection to my taking Tom with me, as I was, in a degree, pledged to him on Saturdays, and Lockhart's note, in answer, was, very good-humouredly, "Surely, we shall be delighted to have Tom Moore the younger, as well as Tom Brown the younger." Would not have asked this, however, had I known it was a dinner of company, which it turned out to be: the guests, Coleridge (who had been the temptation held out to me), Dr. and Mrs. Ferguson, a Miss Macgregor (I think), Murray, Lady Gifford, and three or four more whose names I forget. Was too far from Coleridge, during dinner, to hear more than the continuous drawl of his preachment; moved up to him, however, when the ladies had retired. His subjects chiefly Irving and religion; is employed himself, it seems, in writing on Daniel and the Revelations, and his notions on the subject, as far as they were at all intelligible, appeared to be a strange mixture of rationalism and mysticism. Thus, with the rationalists, he pronounced the gift of tongues to have been nothing more than scholarship or a knowledge of different languages; said that this was the opinion of Erasmus, as may be deduced from his referring to Plato's Timæus on the subject. (Must see to this.) Gave an account of his efforts to bring Irving to some sort of rationality on these subjects, to "steady him," as he expressed it; but his efforts all unsuccessful, and, after many conversations between them, Irving confessed that the only effect of all that Coleridge had said was "to *stun*" him,—an effect I can well conceive, from my own short experiment of the operation.

Repeated two or three short pieces of poetry he had written lately, one an epitaph on himself; all very striking, and in the same mystical religious style as his conversation. A large addition to the party in the evening, and music. Duets by Mrs. Macleod and her sister, which brought back sadly to my memory an evening of the same kind, in this

same room, with poor Sir Walter Scott, before he went abroad for his health. One of the duets, in which the voices rose alternately above each other, Coleridge said reminded him of *arabesques*. With my singing he seemed really much pleased, and spoke eloquently of the perfect union (as he was pleased to say) of poetry and music which it exhibited: "The music, like the honeysuckle round the stem, twining round the meaning, and at last over-topping it." This "over-topping the meaning" not a little applicable to his own style of eloquence. After singing a good many songs, and hearing Moscheles play variations to the "Last Rose of Summer," made my escape with some difficulty amidst a general demand for more songs. In the course of his oratory to-day Coleridge said, "It is in fact the greatest mistake in the world to rest the authority of an ancient church upon any other basis than tradition;" upon which Dr. Ferguson turning round to me said, "That falls in with *your* views, Mr. Moore."

10th. Had promised Lord John to breakfast with him. Went first to Mereweather with my statements, and staid near an hour and a half talking over the business. Was with Lord John by eleven. A good deal of conversation about his Irish tour, with which he was evidently much pleased. Talked of his public dinner at Belfast; was told, after he had accepted the invitation to the dinner, that a great part of his company would be Repealers; was alarmed at this, but his informant assured him that he need be under no apprehension, as the most violent of them would feel themselves bound to behave well on such an occasion, and he could answer for there being nothing offensive to him in their proceedings. The result proved that the informant knew his men well. I said that, though often regretting I had not been with him in the North, it was, after all, as well, perhaps, that I was not, as ten to one but I should have got into some scrape at this dinner, either by saying too much or too little. Talked of patronage; the unlucky way, as I thought, in which the Whigs had managed it, and the character they had got of serving anybody but friends. Seemed struck with what I told him of the letters I received from C. and G. at the time of the excitement pro-

duced in London by the Duke of Wellington's declaration against Reform; the letters having both of them expressed apprehensions of a coming crisis which was likely to end in revolution. "You have kept those letters, I hope," he said; and I answered, "that I had." A great point, evidently, with him and his brother ministers is to impress the notion that they *prevented* a revolution at that period, instead of originating (as was really the case) measures likely to *cause* one. Already they begin to look forward to posterity and its verdict. Told him that I thought any one who looked at the signs of the present times would say that the impetus towards revolution was rather accelerated than slackened. "Ah!" he said, "you are one of those who like grand scenes, who are always looking for the Fifth Act; but it won't come so soon as you think."*

Sat to Moore the sculptor. Dined with Rogers: company, Sydney Smith, Macaulay, Byng, and Greville. Talking of words that had become degraded, Macaulay mentioned "elegant" as a word he would not use in writing, and all agreed with him, except Sydney and myself. "You'll stand by *elegant*, won't you?" says he to me, and on my answering that I would, "Here's Moore," he exclaimed, "as firm as a rock for *elegant*." All agreed that "genteel" was no longer fit for use, though the word *gentile* from which it sprung was still so graceful and expressive. In the course of the evening Smith said to me, "You'll be pleased to hear that there has been a very respectable captain of infantry converted by your book."

12th. Breakfasted with Lord Lansdowne at Lansdowne House; no one but ourselves. In speaking of the knowledge of pictures that may be acquired by being merely conversant with them (without any natural taste or aptitude for the art), Lord L. mentioned that one of the best judges of paintings in Europe was the man at the head of the Monte di Pietà at Rome; pictures being the most usual article of deposit, and the ascertainment of their value being, of course, an important object. Dined with the Hollands at Lord Lilford's house in Stanhope Street. Such a fog that

my hackney coachman was obliged to *coast* his way cautiously by the footway. Company, the Duke of Bedford, Baron Bulow, Baccourt, Le Marchant, &c. Had met the young married couple, Henry Fox and Lady Augusta, in the hall as I came in, and she knew me immediately by my portrait, she said. Somebody mentioned Canning having said, on being asked what was the German for astronomy (he knowing nothing about German), "Oh! *twinkle craft*, to be sure." Had a good deal of talk with Allen about my History. The hostility with which, in Ireland, the people of any one part of the country regard settlers among them from any other is an evident relic of the system of clanship. In talking of the papers that have remained so long unexplored and unarranged in the Council, Record, and State Paper Offices, he said that there really had not been yet a proper History of England. Hume was offered access to some of these documentary stores, but declined the search, saying that "Cadell, his publisher, could not wait so long." Lingard had added a great deal to the facts of English history; but his narrow, sectarian prejudices disqualified him from being a good historian. Agreed with me that, in my task, the earlier and the later periods of Irish history ought to be the main objects of my attention. Told me some anecdotes of Burns; his saying at some public dinner, during the feverish times of Jacobinism, on being asked for a toast, "I'll give you a Bible toast; the last verse of the last chapter of the last Book of Kings."* On another occasion, having to give a toast before some high Tories, he said to the chairman, "You agree that Lords should have their privileges?" "Yes, certainly;" "Well, then, I'll give you the privileges of the Lords of the Creation."

13th. Had been asked to dine at Mildmay's to-day to meet the Lord Chancellor; but, Rogers having expressed a wish that I should meet Jekyll at his house, sent an apology to the Mildmays. Company at dinner, only Jekyll and son, Kenny, and Miss Rogers. Some good stories of Erskine told by Jekyll. His

* What I wished to impress upon Moore was, that imagination rather than sober common sense inspired his political prophecies.—Ed.

* (2 Kings, xxv. 30. "And his allowance was a continual allowance given him of the king, a daily rate for every day, all the days of his life.") The meaning of Mr. Allen evidently was that Burns wished to see an end of Kings; but it is curious that this last verse should be susceptible of a totally different interpretation.—Ed.

ignorance of French, and the adventures that happened to him during a trip to France in consequence. His asking some French people, to whom he and his companion the Serj^t had been introduced, to dine with them, and insisting on writing the notes of invitation himself. On the day fixed, which was Wednesday, nobody came. "This is all some mistake of yours, Erskine, with your French," said the Serjeant; but Erskine insisted that his notes were all right, and then, after a little pause, asked, "Isn't *Vendredi* French for Wednesday?" He had asked them all for Friday. * * * Before dinner Kenny talked a deal to me about my "Irish Gentleman," which seemed to have made a great impression upon him, though, as he said, "He still meant to go to church notwithstanding." On my telling him that it was but little read, I thought, in England, he said, "It is a book that will be read more and more every day."

14th. Had received a note from Barnes to ask me to go with him and Mrs. Barnes to Walter's place near Reading; answered that I would, if possible, follow them thither.—Found a note from the Lord Chancellor, at Brookes's, saying that he had but just heard of my being in town, and asking me to dine with him to-day, to meet only Lord Lansdowne and Drummond; was obliged to refuse, being engaged to the Longmans with Sydney Smith. A note from Sydney, fixing to call upon me, and containing a bill of fare which he has suggested to Mrs. Longman as proper for her entomological guests, to-day, Spence and Kirby; "to wit, flea-pâtés, earthworms on toast, caterpillars crawling in cream and removing themselves," &c., &c. Called upon me in a hackney coach. * * * Smith said, that where he felt he had a good and just claim, he considered it always a duty to himself and family to ask, and not let the world have to say, "If he *did* fall into adversity, that was his own fault." What he had hitherto done was all by his own exertions, as neither himself nor any of his brothers had received a shilling from their father. In talking of the fun he had had in the early times of the "Edinburgh Review," mentioned an article on Ritson, which he and Brougham had written together; and one instance of their joint contribution which he gave me was as follows:—"We take for granted (wrote Brougham) that

Mr. Ritson supposes Providence to have had some share in producing him—though for what inscrutable purposes (added Sydney) we profess ourselves unable to conjecture." Company at the Longmans' (besides the entomologists), Spottiswoode, the Ormes, &c. Sung in the evening and came away earlyish. The road up to Longmans' being rather awkward, we had desired the hackney coachman to wait for us at the bottom. "It would never do, (said S.) when your Memoirs come to be written to have it said, 'He went out to dine at the house of the respectable publishers, Longman & Co., and, being overturned in his way back, was crushed to death by a large clergyman.'" * * * In speaking of the situation of the Ministers and the probable effect of the Reform Bill, I said that every passing day but confirmed my first views with regard to the short-sighted rashness of the measure and the consequences that must ultimately flow from it.

16th. Started in the Reading coach at twelve. Two inveterate Tories my companions. One of them *acharné* against the Whigs, and his absurdity in proportion to his violence. The object of the Ministry, he said, was to lay England at the feet of France; they received their instructions from Paris, or "perhaps, from Rome." "The fellows at Brookes's Club, and Holland House settled everything." But the "Times" newspaper was the great object of his abhorrence. "If there is one corner in hell (exclaimed this wiseacre) hotter than another, it is reserved for the editor of the 'Times.'" He added, that it was "well known the 'Times' people received money from the French government for their labours, and were under the special direction of Talleyrand." I took but little share in the conversation, being employed (as far as amusement would let me) in reading the "Quarterly Review." Within a few miles of Reading the coach stopped, and the coachman, opening the door, asked if there was a Mr. Moore inside, as a gentleman wanted him. Guessing what this meant, I got out and found Barnes by the road-side waiting for me, *not* in the corner of hell, but of a Reading post-chaise which he had brought to take me the short way to Walter's. Left my friends in utter ignorance (at least *then*, I think) as to who I was, and proceeded with the con-

demned editor to Walter's. Received very kindly by the host and hostess, whom I now for the first time saw; the host himself a simple sensible-mannered person. Company, Dr. Mitford and his literary daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Hodgkinson, and one or two others. * * * Apropos of the tragedy of "Rienzi," somebody was mentioning the other day, that the Master of the Rolls asked once, in a large company, during the run of that piece, whether there was ever such a person as Rienzi in existence? Singing in the evening; the governess of Miss Walter and myself the performers. The lady a very good singer and musician. My songs highly successful, and Miss Mitford profuse of compliments thereon.

17th. To church with the rest of the party, and heard a sensible and affecting sermon on the uncertainty of life, from Mrs. Hodgkinson's husband, a man turned eighty years of age, she being about fifty. Lunched at Hodgkinson's, and afterwards drove and walked about Walter's grounds with him and the ladies. None but themselves at dinner. More music in the evening.

18th. After breakfast Mrs. Walter took the Barneses and myself, in her carriage, as far on our way to town as Windsor. Took the opportunity of seeing the Castle, and, having lunched at the inn, proceeded in a chaise together to London. Found from Barnes that he was once in negociation, with Canning to become tutor to his son. Had found a note from Mereweather on my return home, saying that Power was not yet ready with his statement, and that he thought it would be better for me, perhaps, not to delay any longer in town, as I could easily come up again if necessary.

19th. To Paternoster Row. Went with Rees to the London Institution to look at some works on Ireland. Very civilly received by Mr. Upcott; showed me his autograph room; among other curious things was the identical note found in Felton's pocket when he stabbed the Duke of Buckingham; also a copy-book of William Pitt's when a child. Saw in a miscellaneous autograph book an engraving of myself, with a longish letter of my own annexed to it, which I did not venture to read. To have one's nothings bemonstered in this way! Thence to the Charter House to see

Tom. Dined at Rogers's; company, Kenny, Tom Campbell, Maltby, Miss Rogers and her niece. Campbell looking (for a gentleman in a wig) juvenile and fresh. Talking of dog-latin, gave specimens of a conversation he had heard (or heard of) between an Irish priest and a foreigner in Latin, one of them, speaking of a friend he had dined with, called him a "*diabolicus bonus socius*," and the other said, "*Vinciar habebatis bonum vinum*." Campbell defied us to find out what he meant, but I saw it immediately: "I'll be bound you had good wine." Kenny full of wonderment that I do not write an opera. Rogers and I adjourned to the Miss Berrys', where we found Lady Charlotte Lindsay, Lady Canning, and Lady Caledon.

21st. Off in the "Emerald." * * *

30th. Strange letter from a man I know nothing about, asking me to lend him 10*l.* to enable him to go to Scotland. Launches out into praise of my "Anacreon," or rather Anacreon himself personally, saying what an excellent person he was, and concluding his panegyric by saying: "Poor Anacreon! if he was alive he would lend me 10*l.*," or words to that effect. In another part of his letter he says: "I shall always remain indebted to Anacreon and yourself;" but I was resolved he should not incur the latter burthen, and so politely answered that the narrowness of my own circumstances prevented me from complying with his request. Received a pressing letter since I came home from Napier of the "Edinburgh Review," entreating me to give him an article for his next number, and saying my last had done "admirably." Happening to quote this in a letter to Rees, was amused with the caution of his panegyric in return, for fear of *inflaming* my demand for the next service. "Your article was very neat." This, in fact, was all the praise the article deserved; but the evident *fear of price* that was hovering before the eyes of my correspondent, while he indited it, is not the less visible and amusing.

December 1st to 6th. Busy.

9th. Told Mereweather, in my letter either of to-day or yesterday, that I felt myself bound to immortalise him, in some way or other, for his good fight in the cause of my scribbings, and then added this doggerel—

Sing, Muse, the strife 'twixt Power and Right,
Nor make thy wonted jest of it:

For though good Tories* waged the fight,
And Tories much in Power delight,
Right had for once the best of it.

Made up my mind to return to town for the *dénouement* of this business, as there is much I can better communicate verbally than by letter.

12th. To Bowood to dinner, having arranged everything for starting from thence in the morning. Company, only Macaulay and Labouchere. Some talk with them before dinner; was glad to find *something* that Macaulay did not know, though it was nothing of more importance than the works of Miss Olympia Fulvia Morata, the author of the sixteenth century, whose "Life and Times" we found advertised in the newspapers of the day. Having read, to my shame, not only this lady's writings, but those of Alessandra Scala, Cassandra Fidelis, Laura Careta, and other Latin *blues*, I was able to show off to Macaulay in "all such reading as *he* never read." Talked then of Grotius (whom Macaulay seemed rather inclined to under-rate), of the two or three generations of Vossiuses, of Vorstius, and King James the First's Christian charity towards him, writing to the States that if "Vorstius should persist in his Arminian errors, he, the king, was firmly of opinion that burning was too mild a punishment for him." Macaulay mentioned a curious instance of plagiarism in "Dryden's Absalom and Achitophel" (*quare*): the famous couplet—

"Likes to slide, not stand,
And Fortune's ice prefers to Virtue's land" —†

as taken almost verbatim, he said, from some lines under the frontispiece to Knolles's "History of the Turks."

13th. Up early; had breakfast, and started in the first coach for town.

17th. Wrote to Twiss to beg he would hasten what was yet to be done so as to enable me to get out of town, at least, by Wednesday. Went to Paternoster Row to report progress of my business. Found them engaged in an affair of their own; a case which they and the other booksellers had been try-

ing to ascertain, whether an engraver had a right to retain to himself (as it is discovered Heath has been doing) proof copies of the prints he has been employed by publishers to engrave. Murray was put forth as plaintiff, and the case has been decided in their favour; but at the expense (such is law) of 600*l*.! Some of those who had signed an agreement to bear Murray harmless through his plaintiffship having shown indications of a wish to *shirk* their share, a meeting was, at the time when I called, in deliberation on the subject. Called upon Greville, according to appointment, at the Council Office, to see a catalogue which he is having made of State Papers in his office, some of which relating to Ireland, he is of opinion may be of use to me. Went with him from thence to be introduced to Mr. Lemon, of the State Paper Office, who received me with much cordiality, and offered his services in any way that could be useful. Showed me the new volume of the State Papers (Irish) of Henry VIII.'s reign, which is now preparing for publication. Told me more in detail what Allen had mentioned of Hume's declining the inspection of the State Papers which was offered to him. It was Sir Joseph Aylott (the first person who presided over the State Paper Office, on its establishment in 1737,) that made the offer to Hume, and fixed a day for the commencement of their researches; but Hume did not come, and gave as a reason afterwards for his declining the proposal, that if he were to avail himself of these papers, his work, "instead of being only *aicht* volumes would extend as far as *aichty*." Went to Lady Blessington's, having heard that she is at home most evenings. Found her gay rooms splendidly lighted up, and herself in a similar state of illumination, sitting "alone with her glory," reading. It was like the solitude of some princess confined in a fairy palace. After I had been a few minutes with her, D'Orsay made his appearance.—Stayed about three quarters of an hour conversing, or rather listening, during which I heard a good deal about the magazine world, from her ladyship. Told me that her volume of the "Book of Beauty" had beat Miss Landon's in sale by 2000 copies.

18th. Called upon Mereweather: then to Paternoster Row. The Longmans very anxious that I should do something for the next

* Mereweather and Twiss — both Tories.

† ["But wild Ambition loves to slide, not stand,
And Fortune's ice prefers to Virtue's land,"

Part I. about line 200.]

"Edinburgh." Promised, if I *could*. Called upon Barnes. * * * In parting with him he expressed a hope soon to hear from me (meaning something for the paper), and said he was anxious that some more agreeable arrangement could be made for me with Walter. Told him that there had been an application made to me lately, through the Longmans, from a newspaper which is just now making great efforts to attract public notice; but that my own wish was to confine whatever I did in that way to "The Times." "The knowledge of such an application," said he, smiling, "would very much facilitate our making some better arrangements for you." This proves (what I had begun rather to doubt) that he is sincere in wishing to have some more liberal terms arranged with me than I have been *lately* working upon. The offer I here alluded to was from Stuart, the new editor of the "Courier." Called upon young Dalton at his office. Dined, Fielding and myself, at Murray's; company, the Lockharts, Sir C. and Lady Bell, Phillips the artist and his wife, Turner the artist, Henry Ellis. The day odd and not unamusing. Sung in the evening with considerable *éclat*; home early to pack.

19th. Off in the "White Hart" for home.

31st. To dinner at Bowood. The Nortons, young Harris (Lord Malmesbury's son), and the Kennedys.

1834

JANUARY 1st. Walked home from Bowood (where I had gone the day before) in order to scribble off the letter on the subject of Crabbe, which I had promised Murray for the "Life." Returned to Bowood to dinner; same party. * * *

9th to 18th. At work; and happy to be *allowed* to work. * * *

19th to 24th. Having finished the tenth number of the "Irish Melodies," which it was agreed Power was to have, wrote to Rees to say that I was ready with them, and begged him to apprise Power, that he too might be ready with his money. Merewether advised that, for the final settlement of this business, as well as the delivery of the tenth number, I should myself come up to town, as soon as the deed of release was ready for signature.

This, though most ruinously inconvenient to me just now, I resolved to do. Forget whether I mentioned a correspondence I have had lately with a Catholic divine, the Rev. F. C. Husenbeth, the opponent of Faber in what he calls (in his letter to me) the Strasburg Controversy. In one of his communications he tells of his having met at Dr. Baines's (at Bath) a Mr. Berry King, a Protestant clergyman, who had lately been converted to the Catholic faith, principally by his (Dr. Husenbeth's) controversial writings.

31st. Started in the Emerald coach, my companions being Warrener, his daughter, and a schoolfellow of hers. The father being outside all the way, I was left at the mercy of the school girls, and very amusing they were. Notwithstanding (or rather in consequence of) their horror of returning to school, their hatred of the schoolmistress, of the schoolfellows, and of all London, for their sakes we did little else than laugh during the whole of the way. Took up my abode in comfortable Sackville Street.

February 3rd. * * * Dined early with Rogers. Nobody but himself, his sister, and young Mason, for whom he has got a good situation (a writership, I believe) in India, and who is to sail in the same ship with Macaulay. Left early, and went to Drury Lane, partly to see Bunn, who wants me to write a prologue for "Sardanapalus," which he is about to bring forward in great splendour, and partly to see the last scene of "Gustavus Vasa." The finale at the end of the second act charming, and the repetition of the same air in the masquerade scene, (like a similar recurrence of a pretty melody in Massaniello), brought tears into my eyes. Did not see Bunn. Rogers, to-day, quoted as a fine specimen of Addison's humour, the parson threatening the squire, that if he did not reform his ways, he should be obliged "to pray for him on the following Sunday, in the face of the congregation."

4th. An invitation from Lady Macdonald to Rogers and me to go to the Horse Guards to see the Royal procession go to the House to open Parliament. Went together. The sight very splendid and amusing, and, strange to say, one I never saw before. Had been asked to dinner to-day by Lord Essex, by Byng, and by some one else, but sent to offer

myself to Bryan's, for the pleasure of meeting Corry. The George Byrans of the party. Day as usual. Went from thence to the Holland's (Burlington Street), having received a very kind note from my lady yesterday. Found only Lord Melbourne, and soon after came Talleyrand, who was full of the King's speech. Said it occurred to him, though perhaps, he added, to no one else, that in naming the foreign powers, the King paused a little before he said "France," and then laid a peculiar emphasis on it. Talked of Champfort; said he was one of those "*qui dansent toujours, et ne peuvent pas marcher*"; that he was an enemy to *l'état social*; his talent was to *ramasser*. Wits of former times used to *gaspiller*, but our more modern ones "*ramassent et ne gaspillent pas*." It appears that Talleyrand is constantly at the Hollands. "You are sure to be Talleyranded there," said Sydney Smith: a good verb.

5th. Was with Mereweather at half-past nine (not having breakfasted), and sat looking over the deed with him till past twelve, when, hungry and weak, I flew to Brookes's, and had breakfast. From thence to Clark's, who had received the deed and sent it to be engrossed; promised to let Power know that I was ready to deliver the "Melodies," and receive the money to-morrow. Corry very anxious that I should dine at Dominick Browne's with him, to-day being his last. Had half promised Lord Essex, who reminded me of it at Brookes's, and told me I should not see Dominick till midnight, as Shiel's business was to be brought on in the House of Commons. * * *

6th. Went to Paternoster Row to fix with Rees to meet Power at three. Rees came with me as far as Craven Street, where I left him, and proceeded to Brookes's to wait for the deed, which was to be sent there for my signature. A little after four R. brought it, and I got Paul Methuen to witness my signing it. Resolved to go down to the House, to see what more might occur about Shiel's business. Called at the Speaker's; saw her and afterwards him. Invited by her to dinner, with the prospect of the Speaker being let off early enough to join us at dinner. Did not decide, but went into the House. A shake by the hand from Peel at the door. The business got rid of for the moment by a motion of Stanley's. Lord Durham offered to bring me away in his

carriage, but got engaged in conversation with some one, and in the meantime Lord Lansdowne asked me to walk homewards with him, which I did. Joined by the Duke of Richmond, who accompanied us as far as Whitehall.

7th. Wrote to tell Lady Holland that I would dine with her to-morrow, instead of to-day, Rogers having preferred that arrangement, in order that I might dine to-day with him. Called upon Sir Robert Peel, and found him at home. Delighted to find that he is unpledged to any one for his next turn at the Charter House, and will nominate Russell. Sat some time with him, talking of Shiel's case, and found his view to be the same as every one else's, that the mere expression of opinion in private different from those which a man, for the sake of his party, espouses in public, is too common, and indeed inevitable a circumstance to be dwelt upon with any severity. In alluding to the Coercion Bill (*apropos* of Shiel's manner of speaking of it at Brookes's), I mentioned myself having been open-mouthed against it at the time, and added that I disliked it the more as coming from men who had themselves opposed it, when, at least, as much wanting as it was now. To this Peel said nothing, but I thought he *looked* assent to the latter part. "No Government," as he said, "could be carried on without the occasional sacrifice of individual opinions to the general object of the whole." Told him what I heard Grattan once say, in talking of the pension which the Whigs proposed for Lord Erskine's son, though he had not served the full term of diplomatic service necessary to entitle him to it. "It is a job, but I'll vote for it." "Yes," said Peel, "he saw that though a departure from the strict rule, yet being the son of such a man, who had distinguished himself, &c. &c." Took me into another room, to show me what he said I ought to see, the original bust of Pope, by Roubilliac, which was done for Lord Bolingbroke. Told him that Rogers had a very fine *cast* of it; (which I find since is a mistake, as Rogers's is the original clay or model from which this bust was made, and is remarkable for the fine lines and markings with which it abounds, and which were afterwards softened down or omitted in the marble). Called at Lord John's, but did not find him.

Left word that I meant to leave town on Friday. Dined with Rogers and his sister, and accompanied them afterwards to the Adelphi to see the Revolt of the Naiads. Came away before the last piece, and was nearly lost in the fog: never have seen any thing like it; people standing in all directions, asking each other, "What street is this?" Was lucky enough to get hold of a poor sweeper of crossings, who had a nearly burnt-out link, with which she lighted me home. A message from Lord John, to ask me to breakfast with him in the morning.

8th. With Lord John at half past ten; had not long to stay with him, as I was obliged to be back at Brookes's at half past eleven, to meet Hume, and introduce Tom to him. Lord John talked of my "Irish Gentleman," and mentioned the new answer to it, by Philalethes Cantabrigiensis, who, it appears from what Lord J. said, is no less a personage than Maltby, the Bishop of Chichester.* Have often said in fun that I would not condescend to reply to any one *under* a bishop, but little thought I should *really* arrive at the honour and glory of having an episcopal opponent. Hume came to me at Brookes's. Went with him to Moore's to show him my bust; called at Douglas's. Obligated to leave me before Tom came, which I was sorry for.

Have not mentioned, I believe, the present or rather anticipated legacy (100*l.*), which Hume has lately given to Tom, about a month or so since, and which, after a momentary hesitation, I allowed Tom to accept. Hume is one of my oldest friends, and with the exception of the great wrong he did me, at the time of my quarrel with Jeffrey, in first abetting and aiding my appeal to arms on that occasion (a most unnecessary stimulus), and then leaving me to get out of the fuss and ridicule which ensued as best I could; except this (and it is no small exception), I have ever found him kind and friendly; and there has appeared, of late years, a degree of anxiety on his part to get over the coldness I could not help exhibiting towards him, which (long before this kindness of his to Tom) had softened and subdued me. His letter in announcing his intention to present the sum in question, while he was yet alive, instead of

leaving it as a legacy, was friendly, playful, and in good taste; and I was anxious that Tom should in person thank him for the gift; but Hume could not wait. Joined by Tom, and met Woolriche, who promised to take him, some Sunday, to dine with Hume, at Hanwell. Dined at Lord Holland's: company, Creevey, Hallam, Luttrell, Rogers, Woolriche. Lord H. mentioned that he had a letter from Martinez de la Rosa, the new minister of Spain, on the present prospects of that country, and *with* it, a copy of a new edition of his poems! Creevey shrewd and amusing. Woolriche spoke to me after dinner about Tom; said what a handsome boy he was, and how much pleased he was with his manner.

9th. Off in the "Emerald" for home. A madman, and his keeper, and son, my companions: the poor man's hands tied together, but very harmless. Got rid of them a little beyond Newbury.

10th to 28th. Hard at work during this whole month, though a good deal plagued and interrupted by the return of a weakness in my eyes, which came on before I went to town, but was much better during my absence from home and from work. Received copies of the Melodies and the Songs of the Anthology from Power, with a civil note.

March 1st. Have not dined from home anywhere since my return from town. Received from Lady Holland, with a very kind note, one of those shades for candles which I have vainly endeavored to find in town, she alone having the pattern for them. * * *

6th. Returned home from Lacock after breakfast; Horatia and Mademoiselle walking as far as Spye Gate with me. Found from Lady Elizabeth, by the by, that the Archbishop of Dublin was, at first, supposed to have been the author of the answer to my book; but Lady L. had written down to say that it was not by him. It is probably, after all, no bishop at all, but merely somebody who *wants* to be a bishop.

8th to 13th. On the 8th Hughes came to see us, and stayed till the 10th. Received a letter from the Rev. Mr. Yates, a Unitarian, sending me a controversial pamphlet he has just published, in defence of Socinus, and saying it "may possibly not be wholly devoid of interest to a theologian of such extensive erudition and inquiry as yourself."

* A mistake—the real author was Dr. Thayer, the late Bishop of Lincoln.

14th to 17th. A letter from Tom, telling us of Lady Holland having sent an order for her box to Mrs. Admiral Douglass (whom she is not acquainted with) last Saturday, and begging she might take Tom, who she knew dined there that day, to the play with her. This is really very kind of my Lady, and very thoughtful. A letter also from Hume, proposing to take Tom to the St. Patrick's Day dinner; but this I declined, thinking him too young for such public meetings yet awhile. All very kind, though.

20th. A beautiful present from Mr. Costello, of a cup formed out of the calabash nut, which he brought some years ago for me from Bermuda; taken from the tree which is there shown as one I used to sit under while writing my poems. The cup very handsomely and tastefully mounted, and Bessy all delight with it.

21st to 25th. Received from Nell a copy of a letter written by a Catholic priest, the Rev. Mr. Kerry, to some one who had lent him Archbishop Whately's book (as they call it) in answer to the Irish Gentleman. Praises the book for its ingenuity, playfulness, &c., but adds, "when we come to consider it as a work of religious controversy, or an answer to the 'Travel of an Irish Gentleman,' we can see nothing but a sophistical effort to divert the attention of the reader from the strong arguments and legitimate deductions with which that work is replete."

26th. Set off, Bessy and I, on a visit to Farley Castle, to take our last view of poor Eliza, who marries and goes to Bombay next month. The Houltons' carriage waiting for us at Melksham. Company at dinner: the bridegroom, Jackson, and his brother, Mrs. Day, and Mrs. and Miss French. Music (and as usual charming music) in the evening. The trios between Eliza, Catherine, and Flora, and Eliza's own chaunts with Catherine, delicious.

27th. Copied out some pages in the morning, and began a squib for "The Times." Much the same party at dinner, and the same sweet strains again in the evening.

28th. To Church. Eliza at the organ, and assisted by the other girls in singing the chaunts. An excellent sermon by Jackson, who appears a sensible, amiable man. The whole thing interesting and touching.

30th. After church, Bessy and I set off with

Fielding, in his carriage, for Lacock, where we dined and slept. Talk with Talbot about the origin and divisions of languages, the confusion of Goths and Celts, &c. Not very clear on the subject, nor indeed is any one. Speaking of Boileau's lines —

"Louis les animant du feu de son courage,
Se plaint de sa grandeur qui l'attache au rivage,"*

we tried to cobble out among us a translation of them:

"Louis, all fire, laments his royal rank,
Which, spite of courage, nails him to the bank."

31st. Returned home, the Fieldings' carriage bringing Bessy as far as Spye Park; the poor Doctor lying dangerously ill at Bath.

April 1st to 5th. Dr. Starkey dying. On the 3d John came with the intelligence of his death, and to request Bessy to go on before him to the Park, to break it to Mrs. Starkey.

6th. Walked to Fieldings' to dinner; John Starkey part of the way with me. Strangeways at dinner. Horatia and Mademoiselle at the harp and pianoforte in the evening. Slept there.

7th. Talk, at breakfast, of the difficulties of the French language; the grammatical incorrectnesses that occur in the best poets. Several pointed out by St. Marc, even in Boileau. Boileau's "*C'est à vous, non esprit*,"† &c. The "*Grammaire des Grammaires*," which was to settle every thing, is convicted of errors often itself by the "*Dictionnaire des Difficultés*," &c. The grammatical error in Gilbert's pretty lines upon Ovid's "Art of Love,"

"C'est le plus agréable guide,
Qu'on peut choisir pour s'égarer."

Whimsical varieties in French pronunciation. Mentioned that Mademoiselle de Souza always says *Champ Elysees*, i. e., without pronouncing the letter *s*, as most people do between the two words. I remember the old Duc de L'Orge used to pronounce the *p*, at the end of *beaucoup*, strongly. Walked home.

11th. To Locke's, Bessy and myself. Large dinner; the Scott's, Awdreys, Captain Hay (Lord Errol's brother), the Bouveries, &c. Sung in the evening with Anne Locke and alone. Slept there.

* Boileau's Fourth Epistle, "Au Roi."
† Boileau's "Ninth Satire."

12th. Walked home after breakfast to work. Returned to dinner; only themselves. Slept.

13th. Home. * * *

May 5th. A visit from Brabant, who has just returned unexpectedly from his German tour. Had seen his dear Gesenius, and shown him my article on German Protestantism (not forgetting, of course, his own share in it), wherewith, he says, Gesenius was much pleased. * * * A column of extracts in "The Times," from my article on the "Round Towers," given as from "an able and lively article in the last 'Edinburgh.'"

15th. Tom arrived from school, looking well, and grown taller.

20th. To Bath, to meet my sister Ellen (who has written to say she sails from Dublin to-day), and to dine with the Crawfords, in pursuance of a long promise. Wrote yesterday to them. Went by the Devizes coach, being driven to Melksham by Tom, in his mamma's donkey carriage. Drove out with Mrs. Crawford, and went to see Prior Park, where I had never before been. Much interested, both with the beauty of the place, and the *Old Light* institution there. Bishop Bains, at present in Italy; but Manners, the musician, having made me known, Mrs. Crawford and myself were escorted through the establishment by some young priests with most marked kindness and attention. Could not do otherwise, of course, by the "Irish Gentleman." One of these young men, a highly intelligent and accomplished person,—his name Hogan,—had passed a great deal of time in France and Italy, and his manners those of a high-bred gentleman. In looking over their library, remarked "Bayle's Dictionary" among the books. "This," I said, "is quite right; this is the true *fearless* spirit." "We have also," he rejoined, smiling at my remark, "a very fine copy of Voltaire." His own study, which he took us to, full of the best and most recent works on physiology and mathematics, which are his principal line of reading. Took the opportunity of looking over some of their theological books in order to ascertain a point connected with the life of St. Columbanus, which I am just now employed upon—a point relating to the question of "The Three Chapters." The young priest begged me to make use of any of their books I might want, and I accordingly brought away with me a volume

of "Dupin," and of the "France Littéraire" of the Benedictines. Company at Crawfords to dinner, Mr. West, and Mr. Musgrove; the latter author of a translation of Camoens. Some singing in the evening.

21st. Received two books more from my friend at Prior Park, with passages marked in them relating to Columbanus. One of the books Ceillier's "History of Ecclesiastical Authors." Extracted from this and the others what I wanted, and returned them to Mr. Hogan with a note, in which I mentioned, that the only difficulty these books had not solved for me, was the cause of the revival of the "Controversy of the Three Chapters" at the beginning of the seventh century, when Columbanus was at the Court of Milan; that controversy having been, as I thought, set to rest in the middle of the sixth century. Walked about Bath; called on the Prowses, &c. Dined with the Miss Crawfords (the Doctor and Mrs. C. being engaged out), and had barely finished when a messenger came to announce Ellen's arrival at the York House. Hastened away, and found my dear little Nell quite well. Ordered a chaise, and off for home.

22nd. A letter from my friend of Prior Park, containing some notices he had collected for me on the subject of the Three Chapters, all intelligibly and clearly arranged.

* * * * *

June 12th. Called upon Brabant, and requested that he would see Mrs. Moore, which he promised to do. Mentioned in the course of our conversation, that Sir Astley Cooper had, in *one* year, made 24,000*l*.

13th. A letter from Sir Robert Peel, to say that he had the power, he believed, of making an exchange of his appointment for the Charter House, so as to bring in Russell immediately.

20th. An answer from Lord John Russell, to a letter which I wrote him in the course of the week, relative to his speech on Monday last; in that letter I said pretty much as follows:—"I cannot help hastening to tell you that you have relieved me from a most heavy weight of suspense and anxiety by your noble speech of Monday last. *Je reconnais mon sang*, if I may apply such a quotation *roturier* as I am, to the blood of the Russells. But *I do* recognise in that speech all that I have ever admired and loved in you; and let what

will happen with others, you at least come safe and unsinged out of the furnace; and a devil of a furnace it is, to be sure. *Macte virtute* is all I have now time to say. The character of one such man as you, is worth all the convocations of bishops and parsons, that ever were yet—convocated. I have no other word for it," &c. &c. Lord John, in his answer, says, "You cannot doubt that I am very much gratified by your letter. My friends, in general, I am glad to say, both in the House and out of it, cheered me on with more praise than I deserved, and I believe, by dint of encouragement, they will at last make me, what by nature I am not, namely, a good speaker. But there are occasions on which one must express one's feelings, or sink into contempt. I own I have not been easy during the period for which I thought it absolutely necessary to suspend the assertion of my opinions, in order to secure peace in this country. If there is no hesitation or shrinking among us at the helm, we shall still pass through the straits in safety; but if there is, I see no sea-mark which can afford hope to the country." He is a noble fellow, Lord John, and (putting my private feelings for him out of consideration) is one of the very few public men,—perhaps with the exception of Abercromby, the *only* one,—about whose course I *now* feel the slightest anxiety or interest.

July 6th to 8th. Alone and hard at work. Have returned again to the commencement of my Irish History, and am (for the fourth or fifth time, I believe) remodelling and reconstructing: have some reasons to alter my views, too, respecting the Milesian colonisation. All this will occasion immense difficulty and, worst of all, delay; and I have besides, within this week or two, pledged myself to the Longmans to have the work out by the first of January. How I can manage this, and yet take my intended trip, in the interim, to Ireland, is to me at present inconceivable. Delightful and long letters from my sweet Bess, who is making the most of her short visit.

9th. Bessy to be at Buckhill this evening. Walked to Bowood to look over some books, and found Guthrie. Some talk about the new crash in the ill-fated Ministry, which, from the intelligence he has received, he thinks is at an end. How rapidly and truly they have

confirmed all my worst predictions of them! but I cannot think they are even yet out of the scrape. I have always said that they were like Mazeppa, tied fast to the mad horse they had let loose, and must see its course out. Went on to Buckhill, where I dined, and immediately after, Bessy and Ellen arrived. Came in the fly home with them, and had a long account of all their doings in town.

10th to 12th. "All worky, worky," as the negro says, without any change or incident worth noticing, except that I found myself obliged to give up my intention of visiting Ireland this year, from the want both of time and money for such an indulgence.

13th. Received the following curious letter from Con. Lyne, the Irish barrister. I was fully prepared for the effect which those verses of mine in the last Melodies, "The Dream of those Days,"* would, I know, produce on the minds of O'Connell and his worshippers, and the consequent unpopularity I should be exposed to. Con.'s letter was as follows:—

"Private and confidential. 12th July, 1834.

"My dear Moore,—I have this moment been with O'Connell, and found him in a state of indescribable excitement at the perusal of one of your last melodies,—Air, 'I love you above all the rest.' He construes it to contain, as levelled against him, a charge of 'dishonour' and ingratitude, in return for the blessings of emancipation. I have in vain endeavoured to put every thing *mitiore sensu*, but in vain. He continues to almost rave at what he considers a most foul attack upon him. The *note* is what seems to gall him most. Would that you could send me an alleviating word of explanation.

"Believe me, dear Moore,

"Most truly and sincerely yours,

"CORNELIUS LYNE."

My answer (which I kept no copy of) was to the purport that I was not surprised at O'Connell's feeling those verses, as I had felt them deeply myself in writing them; but that they were wrung from me by a desire to put on record (in the only work of mine likely to reach after times) that though going along,

* "The dream of those days when first I sung thee is o'er."

MOORE'S *Poetical Works*, vol. iv. p. 103.

heart and soul, with the great cause of Ireland, I by no means went with the spirit or the manner in which that cause had been for a long time conducted. "You will recollect," I continued, "that these verses are addressed to Ireland; but I admit that O'Connell had every right to take them directly to himself, as he is, and has been for a long time, to all public intents and purposes, Ireland; and I look upon this as one of the most fatal consequences of his extraordinary career. In a great degree by the predominance of his talents, but, at least in an equal degree, by other qualities, he has cleared away from around him all independent and really public-spirited co-operators, and stands alone, the mighty Unit of a Legion of Ciphers; as, without meaning any offence to him, I must consider the great majority of those who now support him in Parliament. This alone is in itself sufficient to lower the standard of public men in Ireland; but there is also another point on which, giving him full credit for moral and conscientious scruples on the subject, I cannot help thinking that O'Connell has done more to lower the once high tone of feeling in Ireland, both public and private, than a whole life of political service, even such as his, can repair. But neither on this, nor on some other points which occur to me, shall I now dwell any further than merely to say, that in those verses, such as they are, *liberavi animam meam*, and that I shall not the less continue to declare, as I have ever done, my own warm and deep admiration of O'Connell's talents and energy, and my ardent wishes for his success in every measure by which I think the *real* interests of Ireland will be benefited." I then concluded with some civil expressions to Con. himself. In the passage alluding to O'C.'s vow against duelling, I should have wished to explain that I could not possibly mean to find fault with his resolution on this subject, but with his having set the example of exempting the practice of personal abuse from that responsibility to which the code of *gentlemen* had hitherto subjected it. The power of bullying with impunity is one of the last that a friend to civilisation in Ireland would wish to see popularised among its gentry. It was in my mind to add something of this kind, but I thought it as well not to dwell irritatingly on a point that must be so sore with him. The annual stipend, too,

from the begging-box, was another of the features of his patriotism, which I forbore to touch on for the same reasons.

14th. I find, in my sketch of the substance of my letter to Lyne, I omitted a very principal part of the contents. After referring to the manner in which O'Connell had cleared the stage of all other performers but himself, I went on to say, that the immense power which resulted from such a position to the individual who occupied it could not in the nature of things be otherwise than abused; and it was against such abuse of power, let it be placed in what hands it might, I had all my life revolted, and would still to the last revolt. "It was on this principle," I added, "that I have lately turned against some of my own most valuable and still-valued friends, because I saw that power had perverted their better natures, and that they were not the same men *with* it as *without*."

15th to 17th. At work at the early part of my "History," which I have entirely remodelled, and consequently improved. In a work of this kind, one ought to write it entirely through *first* (in order to become a master of the subject), and then begin *de novo*. This I am in a great measure doing. Have made up my mind to go to town for a week or two, in order to consult books at the British Museum. I have already mentioned, I believe, that, after much thought upon the subject, I have seen reason to abandon entirely the old Milesian story, which is not tenable, I find, in any way (except as to the general tradition of an early Eastern colonisation), and to adopt very much the views of Pinkerton and others, in considering the Scots as a Gothic colony. This is very far from being the popular view of the subject; but much as I like to be popular in Ireland, still "*Magis amica veritas*." My sortie upon O'Connell will be no small trial of the grounds I stand upon with my countryman. My own opinion is, that it will throw me into the shade for some time; but there will, perhaps, be the more light upon my *grave* for it afterwards, if that's any comfort.

24th. A visit from Bowles. His account of his writing his verses on the Westminster Abbey Festival, while the music was going on, walking off with them between the acts to Nicholls, the printer, and having them in type before dinner, all amusingly characteristic of

the man; the verses, too, being some of his best.

26th. Packing up for town. Forgot to mention that I had another letter from Con. Lyne, saying that he had not shown my letter to O'Connell, having consulted Fitzsimon (O'Connell's brother-in-law) on the subject, whose opinion it was that he had better not. My sister Ellen had a letter from her friend, Mrs. Meara, this morning, full of sorrow at the attack on her dear Dan, which she had heard of from Fitzsimon, who had arrived in Dublin, and who told her he had never seen O'Connell so suddenly or violently agitated as he was on reading my verses. He was actually, as she says, moved to tears. This all tells well for Dan; and I have little doubt that he himself, in his calmer moments, feels ashamed of the mountebankism to which his position sometimes drives him. Lyne having, in his last letter, expressed the regret he felt on finding that "I identified O'Connell with those pseudopatriots whom I so severely and eloquently denounced," I thought it right to remind him, in my answer, that I had confined myself entirely to O'Connell's *manner* of conducting the cause, and had not said a word about his intentions or want of sincerity. I then went on as follows: "A gallant and intelligent friend of mine, in writing to me lately, says, 'O'Connell is working well; it were to be wished that he did his work in a nobler manner; but still he does it.' This (I added) is perhaps, after all, the true state of the case, and it is very possible that no other manner of working the cause would be half so effective. But I don't like it, nor ever have liked it, since that disgraceful day, as I must ever consider it, when O'Connell knelt with his wreath before George the Fourth. Byron felt this as if he was himself an Irishman, and so his poem on the subject shows."

27th. Walked in to Devizes, and dined and slept at the Scotts. Talked of an article in the "Monthly Review," upon Gibbon's Miscellaneous Works, written (as Scott said) by Mackintosh, in which, after quoting the passage where Gibbon characterises the different historians who had preceded him, "the careless, inimitable beauties of Hume," &c. &c., Mackintosh proceeded, according to Scott, in a strain of eloquent comment which was not inferior to the best flights of those whom he

criticised. Begged me to find out this number of the "Review," and get transcribed for him the passage in question.

29th. To breakfast at Rogers's, where we had Lord Lansdowne, Whishaw, and afterwards the Duke of Sutherland, whom Rogers had asked and forgot, till Lord Lansdowne informed him that he was coming. "Asking Dukes and forgetting them," as I told Rogers, "is now-a-days the poet's privilege." Conversation agreeable. The great Correggio just purchased by the Government is pronounced, it seems, by some critics *not* to be a Correggio; such is the uncertainty of all *picture* knowledge. Rogers, too, showed me after breakfast a small picture of Ludovico Caracci's, for which he himself gave twenty-five louis at Milan; while Lord Lansdowne, for apparently the same picture, gave, some years since, more than 500*l.* in London. Wishing to compare the two, Rogers one morning, having some artists with him to breakfast, wrapped up his Caracci in a napkin, and all went off together to Lansdowne House (the Lansdownes being out of town) for the purpose of comparing the two pictures, when, as he told me, the only difference the artists could see between them was a somewhat greater degree of finish in some parts of his.

30th. Went to the British Museum, where I stayed most of the day. Dined at Lord Essex's; company, Rogers and Miss R., Miss Stephens and niece, Calcott the painter, Lieut. Drummond, and Rich. Talk with Lord Essex in the evening about Lord Grey; his lamentations at Lord Grey's being out of the Ministry. Endeavoured to convince him that Lord Grey, on the contrary, is in high luck to get so well and so untarnished out of the scrape. It has long been my opinion, that one of the curses of the position in which these men have placed themselves is, that they are *doomed* to stay in,—inevitably doomed to abide the issue of what they so rashly commenced; and their late readiness to tumble out (from sheer weakness and disunion), and yet *not* tumbling out, seems to confirm this view of the fatality that awaits them. Received a message from Lord John before I went to dinner, asking me to breakfast with him on Saturday.

August 3d. Took the boys to breakfast at Rogers's, where he had Hughes the American.

Some discussion about the existence of slavery in America, and the sort of incubus it is on the breast of that country. Difficulty of shaking it off; "the highest *gentlemen*," Hughes said, are to be found in the Slave States, and seemed to argue as if they were the more high and free-minded from having slaves to trample upon. Rogers opposed to this the instance of England; but certainly almost all free nations have had some such victims to whet their noble spirits upon and keep them in good humor with themselves. The Athenians had their *oiketai*, the Spartans their Helots, the Romans their *Servi*, and the English, till of late, their Catholic Irish. * * *

Dined with the Speaker: company Mr. and Mrs. Fitzgerald, and Horace Twiss and his wife. In talking of the late defeat of the Ministers in the House of Commons, by which the Tithe Bill was carried, the Speaker showed a good deal of fairness. Mr. Fitzgerald had coarsely enough remarked that, at last, there could be no doubt of Lord Althorp's dishonesty, as he had evidently suffered himself to be out-numbered on that occasion; to which the Speaker replied, that such was at first his own impression; that — of the Treasury had come to him full of anxiety on the subject, confessing that it looked very ill, but assuring him that it was contrary both to the wishes and efforts of the Ministers, that the opposition to their bill had succeeded. "I told —," continued the Speaker, "what my own impression had been, adding that of course his declaration on the subject had removed all my suspicions; and it certainly shows one may be led by appearances to form a wrong judgment, for I happen to know since then, that there were very pressing notes from the Ministers to several of their supporters, requesting their attendance and vote on that question."

5th. Breakfasted at home, and afterwards called upon M. de Bonnechose, Librarian to the King of the French. Talking of the state of France, I spoke of the "strong government" which they had now brought upon themselves; and his remark, in return, was, that the government was certainly strong, but that a day or hour might overturn it, so entirely did it depend upon the balance of public opinion. Said that France was never before in possession of real freedom, and quoted what Casimir Delavigne remarked to him, one day, during

the *état de Siège* importing (for I forget the exact words) that people at a distance, observing such an outward mark of despotic rule, could little conceive, what was yet the fact, that true liberty, for the first time, prevailed *within*. This is just intelligible; but it must at the same time be acknowledged, that sieges of Paris, press prosecutions, domiciliary visits, &c., are rather a novel mode of carrying on a free government. Spoke very flatteringly of my European reputation. Dined with Rogers and his sister, and in the evening went all to the Opera: I to my stall, where I was soon joined by Lord Lansdowne.

6th. Out early for the purpose of seeing Rogers off on his tour. Met him in his carriage, in St. James's Place, quarter past nine, and got in with him. Had wished me to go as far as the Lakes with him, and I should have liked it much could I have spared the time. Left him in the New Road, and went to Moore's (the sculptor) to breakfast. A large party of Irishmen assembled, chiefly artists. Maclise, who painted my Mokanna; Doyle and his brother-in-law, Rothwell, Moran, and one or two more; among whom was a young man connected with "The Spectator" newspaper. Clever fellows most of them, and the conversation agreeable. To British Museum. Dined at Bailey's in Seymour Place; company, Bruce, Bailey, Sir R. Vivian, Elwyn, Quintin Dick, and one or two more. Talking of extempore oratory, mentioned what Brougham says in his inaugural Discourse that, "that man will always be the best extempore speaker, *when* necessary, who has been most in the habit of preparing himself sedulously for premeditated speaking." One would think, on the contrary, that a habit of preparing sedulously would beget a fastidiousness fatal to extemporaneous flow. Cicero's only extempore speech (that for Marcellus) his best; but have we the speech as he spoke it?

7th. To breakfast with Lord Lansdowne: none but ourselves. Met Dr. Hume on my way, who was coming to me with a very pretty trinket (a flower-holder, to wear on the breast) as a present for Bessy. Proposals for publishing by subscription a Latin translation of the Irish Melodies; a strange project! I remember once a M. Pacodsky, a Hungarian nobleman, coming over to Dublin

(of all places) to publish a translation of Ovid's Epistles into Greek. The Irish Melodies, in Latin, seems hardly a more promising speculation. Dined at Paternoster Row.—Barnes, Stuart (of "The Courier"), Col. Torrens, McCulloch, Phillips the painter, and a few more. In talking of the attempt that had been made to take my portrait, Phillips said, that what the public expected naturally to see in a portrait of me was the gay fancy and wit which they had been accustomed to associate with my writings, and that it was the effort to give this which made my portraits unlike me; whereas the character of my head was deep thoughtfulness. In the course of the day, Phillips related a circumstance, as having happened to Lord Castlereagh, which was evidently a *rifacimento* of a story which I have often told of an event that occurred to myself. People are so fond when they meet with a stray story of getting some *high peg* to hang it upon. I have not time now to relate the particulars, but it was concerning a dead robber whom my uncle and myself found lying on the road, in returning early one morning from Sandymount to Dublin. He had been shot just under the eye, and there was no other mark than the small hole through which the bullet had entered. An old woman who was looking down at the body at the same time with us, said, "It was the blessing of God it didn't hit his eye." Phillips's story was almost word for word the same, and on my telling mine the whole company agreed that the other must have been a mere transfer of my adventure to Lord Castlereagh. * * *

8th. To Evans's, the bookseller, who showed me an autograph of Napoleon's letter to Louis XVIII. when the former was First Consul, and when Louis addressed a sort of canvassing letter to him: "You must not think," says Napoleon in his answer, "of coming into France. If you do, *vous marcherez sur cinq cent mille cadavres*." He then adds, "You may be assured of my doing all in my power *pour assurer la tranquillite de votre ré- traite*." One of the sentences is dashed out impatiently with the pen, and another interlined, but not legibly, that which was meant to be expunged being by far the more legible of the two. Might not this have been his rough copy? * * * *

Engaged to dine at Murray's at Norwood. Called for by the Lockharts, in an open carriage, between five and six. Found no one but Murray's own family. A good deal of talk about various things. Sung for them in the evening. My last number of Melodies produced, which led me to tell them the effect of the verses on O'Connell. On my saying that it remained to be seen whether he would attack me in consequence, Lockhart said, "No; he will not attack *you*: yours is a weapon he will not like to encounter."

10th. Breakfasted at home, and went to the Warwick Street Chapel; had seen Howard a day or two since, and told him I would come to his pew. A noble mass of Beethoven's, and a most benevolent sermon, recommending kindness and charity towards all persons without any distinction of sects. How unlike the damnatory tirades of our B. preacher! In coming out, a gentleman introduced himself to me, whom I found to be O'Dwyer. Walked some time with him. Spoke of my verses; had seen my letter to Con. Lyne, and on my saying that I was perfectly prepared for the unpopularity that must follow such a step, he answered that, "Had I made my charge less general, that would not, he thought, have been the result;" implying, of course, that, as it is, I must expect to fall into eclipse. Well, so be it! "and more true joy Marcellus exiled feels, than Daniel," &c., &c. Called on Mrs. Shelley; not at home; but found Ruthven; another of the Tail, waiting for her.—Have just thought, by the bye, of a good motto for O'Connell from Persius, *Caudam jactare popello*. † * * * Talk with Allen of my "Irish History,"—of Thierry's "Descent of the Normans," which he and Lord Holland praised so much and recommended to me, but which appears to me, as far as I have read of it (first vol.), to be a showy superficial book; built upon a theory, too, which, though imposing, and perhaps borne out at the commencement of the history, becomes ridiculous from its forced application as he goes on.—Told my opinion of it to Allen; but, of course, without much changing his.

11th. Dined at Lady Blessington's: company, D'Orsay (as master of the house), John Ponsonby, Willis the American, Count Pahlen

† Ante diem blando caudam jactare popello
Desinis.

Persius, iv. 15.

(whom I saw a good deal of when he was formerly in London, and liked), Fonblanque, the editor of "The Examiner," and a foreigner, whose name I forget. Sat next to Fonblanque, and was glad of the opportunity of knowing him. A clever fellow certainly, and with great powers occasionally as a writer.—Got on very well together. Broached to him my notions (long entertained by me) respecting the ruinous effects to literature likely to arise from the boasted diffusion of education; the lowering of the standard that must necessarily arise from the extending of the circle of judges; from letting the mob in to vote, particularly at a period when the *market* is such an object to authors. Those "who live to please must please to live," and most will write down to the lowered standard. All the great things in literature have been achieved when the readers were few; "fit audience find and few." In the best days of English genius, what a comparatively small circle sat in judgment! In the Italian Republics, in old Greece, the dispensers of fame were a select body, and the consequence was a high standard of taste. Touched upon some of these points to Fonblanque, and he seemed not indisposed to agree with me; observing that certainly the present appearances in the world of literature looked very like a confirmation of my views. Some conversation after dinner about poor Campbell's "Life of Mrs. Siddons." All pronounced the work bad.

12th. Breakfasted at home; made some calls; at Shee's. Showed me a new work, "Naval Recollections," in which there is mention of me, and such as pleases me not a little. The author, it appears, was midshipman on board the "Phaeton" frigate in which I went to America, and describes the regret of the officers of the gun-room when I quitted the ship, adding some kind things about their feelings towards me, which I had great pleasure in reading. To have left such an impression upon honest, hearty, unaffected fellows like those of the gun-room of the "Phaeton," is not a little flattering to me. I remember the first lieutenant saying to me, after we had become intimate, "I thought you, the first day you came aboard, the damndest conceited little fellow I ever saw, with your glass cocked up to your eye;" and then he mimicked the manner in which I made my first appearance.

Called upon Miss Costello, who repeated her desire that I would allow her to dedicate her book to me. Of course, accepted the honor.

Went from thence to the Hollands, where I found a scene that would rather have alarmed, I think, a Tory of the full dress school.—There was the Chancellor in his black frock coat, black cravat; while upon the sofa lay stretched the Prime Minister, also in frock and boots, and with his legs cocked up on one of Lady Holland's fine chairs. Beside him sat Lord Holland, and at some distance from this group was my Lady herself, seated at a table with Talleyrand, and occupying him in conversation to divert his attention from the Ministerial confab at the sofa. Joined these two, being the first time that I was ever regularly introduced to Talleyrand. Was very civil; said Mr. Moore was *très connu en France*. Lady Holland mentioned my having lived at Meudon for two or three summers, which brought on some conversation about that neighborhood. A book lying upon the table which she had been recommended, and had sent to Paris for it, but would not now read it. This book was Leroy's *Lettres Philosophiques sur l'Intelligence et la Perfectibilité des Animaux*. Talleyrand strongly advised her to read it, and said (in French, for he never speaks English), "lend it to Mr. Moore, and I am sure, after he has read it, he will be of my opinion about it. I remember, when a young man, going *à la chasse* with that Monsieur Leroy, who was Lieutenant des Chasses du Parc de Versailles; and the Abbé Condillac* was also of the party." Joined afterwards the Cabinet on the sofa.

13th. My last day. Asked by Lord Ducie to meet the Duke of Norfolk at dinner, and congratulate him on his ribbon, which he received this day. Told me I should meet also Lord Lansdowne and Lord Auckland. Was sorry to give up this party, but had fixed to take the boys (whose holidays end to-day) to dine with Edward Moore, and go to some theatre afterwards, so preferred disappointing myself to disappointing them. Went for them to the Charter House. Dined between five and six, and all went to the Haymarket, where we were a good deal amused. Home and packed.

* Condillac, I see, also wrote "*Sur les Animaux*."

14th. Started with the two boys in the Emerald, for Bath, where Bessy and Ellen were to meet us. Arrived between eight and nine. Found Bessy with the Prowses; had tea there. Slept at the York House. Bessy, &c. being lodged at the Prowses'.

15th. Called with Bessy at the Crawfords'; Mrs. C. away, in Paris. Lent us their carriage to go to Prior Park. Received very kindly by my intelligent friend the young priest. When we arrived at the front door, found that service was going on within, and remained there some time listening to the sounds of the organ, and some sweet boys' voices, while the beautiful sunny prospect was before our eyes. Nothing could be more delicious. Bessy and Ellen quite enchanted. Walked with the priest through some of the grounds. Mentioned a theory broached in a late work of some friend of his, that the imaginative and ratiocinative faculties have never flourished at any one period together. But Bacon and Shakspeare, who were contemporaries, are a sufficient answer to this notion.

16th. Saw our dear Nell off in the coach for Bristol, from whence the packet was to sail at four, and started with the boys and Bessy Prowse for Sloperton. Some verses have appeared in the "Dublin Register" attacking me for my allusion to O'Connell in "The Irish Melodies." Forgot to mention what Rogers told me in town, and which gave me great pleasure, of Lady W. Russell speaking to him lately of Lord John's great "admiration" of me.

24th. Dined at Bowood: none but ourselves and Guthrie. Conversation after dinner; the want of commanding talent that is now perceptible in every walk of intellect and in every country. The new and forced style of writing that has become popular both in England and France. What happened in the decline of ancient literature, in the time of Seneca, Lucan, and later, when men, with the best models of writing before their eyes, and fully able to appreciate those models, yet sunk into a false and wretched style themselves, till at last the true light became extinct. The same sort of darkness likely to come again over the world. In Italy, men seated among the wonders of their ancient painters, yet produce nothing but monsters themselves, and seem to

have wholly lost the tradition of the art. All this excites awful reflections, as showing that, even without the aid of barbarians, another eclipse may come over the nations.

29th. * * * Talk with Lord L. about Coleridge; was much struck with Lockhart's article upon him, and the extracts; but surprised at Coleridge's conversation being brought into competition with Mackintosh's, as he well might be. Coleridge, in general, all mist and maze, and never by any chance talked "like folks of this world."

30th. Walked home after breakfast, Brabant part of the way with me. On my mentioning the accurate account kept of eclipses by the Irish annalists, so early as the seventh century, suggested that it would be curious to compare their observations with those of foreign astronomers; and see, by comparison of latitudes, whether the Irish records were made at the time and on the spot, or merely copied at a later period from the foreign lists.

September 16th. Sydney at breakfast made me actually cry with laughing. I was obliged to start up from the table. In talking of the intelligence and concert which birds have among each other, cranes and crows, &c., showing that they must have some means of communicating their thoughts, he said, "I dare say they make the same remark of us. That old fat crow there (meaning himself) what a prodigious noise he is making! I have no doubt he has some power of communicating." &c. &c. After pursuing this idea comically for some time, he added, "But we have the advantage of them; they can't put us into pies as we do them; legs sticking up out of the crust," &c. &c. The acting of all this makes two thirds of the fun of it; the quickness, the buoyancy, the self-enjoying laugh. Talking of Bayle after breakfast, was surprised at Sydney's low opinion of him. Said that you found everything in Bayle but the thing you wanted to find. Spoke of Ser-vetus; Sydney evidently ignorant of his history, and asked me afterwards whether it was Calvin or Luther that had him burned.

Walked with him about the grounds; his conversation, as is usually the case in a *tête-à-tête*, grave and sensible. Discussed O'Connell's character, and though, for the pleasure of the argument (which Sydney delights in) questioning most of my opinions,

yet upon the whole I found he agreed with my views. Mentioned his first interview with Dan, who had called upon him, and he went to return the visit. Found some people there, to whom O'Connell presented him, saying, "Allow me to introduce to you the ancient and amusing defender of our faith;" on which Sydney laughingly interrupted him, saying, "of your *cause*, if you please, *not* of your faith." Walked a little with Luttrell afterwards. Talked of prosody; whether the ancients themselves did not, even in *prose*, attend more to accent than to quantity. Mentioned the *dictylic* passage quoted from "Demosthenes" by Longinus, which Luttrell remembered and quoted. Sydney, at dinner, and after, in full force; sometimes high comedy, sometimes farce; both perfect in their ways. Describing a dinner at Longman's; Rees carving *plerumque secat res*. Talking of the bad effects of late hours, and saying of some distinguished diner-out, that there would be on his tomb, "He dined late"—"and died early," rejoined Luttrell.

Sydney asked me whether he was likely to find a good account of Servetus in Bayle, and I said, most assuredly; it was just the sort of subject on which Bayle would be quite at home. "Very well," he answered, "I shall make that the test of my judgment of him."

17th. Sydney triumphing in the confirmation he had found of his opinion of Bayle; there was no *article* on the subject of Servetus, in the Dictionary. This is quite true, and certainly singular. There is not even any mention of Servetus, that I can find, except once, briefly, in an article on Ochinus. I had said, I believe, to Sydney, "at all events you will find plenty about him in the 'Œuvres de Bayle,'" and there I was right. In the *Réponse du Nouveau Converti*, tom. ii., Bayle is, as I had answered for, quite at home on the subject. I remember, years ago, Dumont praising Castalion as one of the first, if not the first, advocate for religious liberty; but assuredly his silence on Servetus's case told badly for his sincerity in the cause. (See this article of Bayle.)

Lord Lansdowne having, some time since, expressed a wish to see Prior Park, we agreed that, if to-day was fine, he and I should go there. Sydney charging me with a design upon Lord L's. orthodoxy, and recommending

that there should be some sound Protestant tracts put up with the sandwiches in the carriage. The day delicious, and what with the open carriage, the four fleet horses, and agreeable conversation all the way, nothing could be more agreeable. Left the horses at Bath, and put on a pair of posters to take us up to the Park. Had given my friend the young priest notice of our coming, and he was prepared to receive us. My account of his manners, intelligence, &c., to Lord Lansdowne having been (as he richly deserved) highly favourable, I was delighted to observe that without the least effort, he came up fully to all I had said of him. Lord L. delighted with both the place and the priest. In looking over different books in his own study, the quiet with which he waited till we made our remarks on them; and then the intelligence and perfect knowledge of the subject with which he gave his own, was all very striking. Got back, after a very agreeable day, just in time to dress for dinner. Luttrell has given me a translation into French of the Irish Melody, "Rich and Rare," which my tall admirer the young Belgian has sent him. On leaving Prior Park, Lord Lansdowne said to me, and repeated the same to Sydney afterwards, "If I had been a Protestant old lady, that place would have alarmed me not a little."

18th. At breakfast Sydney enumerated and acted the different sorts of hand-shaking there are to be met with in society. The *digitary* or one finger, exemplified in Brougham, who puts his fore finger, and says, with his strong northern accent, "How *arrye* you?" The *sepulchral* or *mortemain*, which was Mackintosh's manner, laying his open hand flat and coldly against yours. The *high official*, the Archbishop of York's, who carries your hand aloft on a level with his forehead. The *rural* or *vigorous* shake, &c., &c. In talking of the remarkable fact that women in general bear pain much better than men, I said that allowing everything that could be claimed for the superior patience and self-command of women, still the main solution of their enduring pain better than men was their having less physical sensibility. This theory of mine was immediately exclaimed against (as it always is whenever I sport it) as disparaging, ungenerous, unfounded, &c., &c. I offered to put it

to the test by bringing in a hot tea-pot, which I would answer for the ladies of the party being able to hold for a much longer time than the men. This set Sydney off most comically, upon my cruelty to the female part of the creation, and the practice I had in such experiments. "He has been all his life (he said) trying the sex with hot tea-pots; the burning ploughshare was nothing to it. I think I hear his terrific tone in a *tête-à-tête*. 'Bring a tea-pot.'"

Came away soon after breakfast; Sydney, who was to go next day, offered to take me with him, and it would have been a most easy, as well as delightful opportunity of paying my long-promised visit to his parsonage, but my time would not permit. Came away soon after breakfast. Made me promise to bring Mrs. Moore and the boys some time or other. During my drive yesterday with Lord Lansdowne, in talking of public speaking, I asked him whether he had ever experienced that sort of bewilderment in delivering himself, which he might have observed come over me at the Devizes dinner, and which I had once before experienced for a few moments during my speech at the Revolution Meeting in Dublin some years since, but recovered myself on that occasion almost immediately. He said, to my surprise, that he hardly ever spoke in the House without feeling the approaches of some such loss of self-possession, and found that the only way to surmount it was to talk on, at all hazards. He added, what appears highly probable, that those *common places* which most men accustomed to public speaking have, ready cut and dry, to bring in on all occasions, were, he thought, in general used by them as a mode of getting over those blank intervals, when they do not know *what* to say next, but, in the mean time, must say *something*. Mentioned instances of breaking down in speaking, and how painful it was not only to the sufferers themselves but to the witnesses. * * *

21st. Having promised to return to Bowood to meet Lord John, who was expected to-day, walked over to dinner, but found he was not to come till to-morrow. A large party; besides the Lysters and Luttrell, there were Lord Auckland, Captain Elliot, Admiral Dundas, Lord King, Captain Simpson, and the Bowleses. Bowles having

preached in the morning, taking for his subject one of the cartoons in the chapel given by the King to Lord Lansdowne. * * *

22nd. * * * Mentioned Lady —, (I forget who) saying, "Oh, you know there's high water at Westminster Bridge, every day, at twelve o'clock." On which somebody gravely answered, "There has not been *hitherto*; but I understand the present Lord Mayor means to regulate it so."

25th. Lord John offered to walk with me and see Bessy. A good deal of interesting conversation on the way: full of his usual manly frankness. Told him how much I was in hopes that they would all have got out at the crisis; and he said it was their own hope also. Described his calling upon Lord Melbourne on the subject, and being joined there by Lord Althorp; their all wishing that the King would send to Peel, but, of course, could not propose it, as such a step would give the Tories the power of saying "It was really not our desire to undertake the government under such circumstances, but as these gentlemen confess themselves unable to carry it on, why," &c. &c. Spoke of the King, and how well he deported himself on some of these difficult occasions. What he said to Lord John himself, when having asked for an audience, Lord John begged that his Majesty would give him leave to make some explanation in the House, in answer to Stanley on a point personal to himself. The King in granting the permission, said he had only two suggestions to make, one as to the *matter* of the explanation, and the other as to the *manner*. That in the first place, there should be no more particulars entered into than were absolutely necessary for Lord John's purpose; and next that the *manner* of the explanation should be in no ways offensive to Mr. Stanley. Described a scene at the levee, after it was known that Stanley meant to resign. Lord Melbourne, Lord John, and Stanley being together, laughing at some ridiculous story Melbourne was telling them, while the Tories, who were looking on, supposed from their good humour together, that all was made up. In a few hours after, however, Stanley's speech showed them how mistaken they had been. Stayed some time at Sloper-ton, and returned to Bowood to dinner. Mr. Barry, the architect, and Mr. Austin added to

the party. Lord John very kindly told me that, as long as he was allowed to remain at the Pay Office, he hoped I would always make that my head quarters when I came to town. * * *

27th. Received a letter a day or two since from Con. Lyne, dated from Derrynane Abbey; in which, after referring to his former resolution (adopted on the advice of Fitzsimon) *not* to show my letters to O'Connell, he proceeds thus: "Since then I had been on a visit with my excellent friend Dr. Sandes of our University; I read to him your letters; and he was of opinion I should show them to O'Connell; that they would disabuse him of any false notion he might entertain as to their contents; and in conformity to that opinion I, to-day, upon O'Connell again referring to the subject, read them to him, and I am rejoiced to say the effect Dr. Sandes contemplated followed; that it went to mitigate and considerably to reduce all personal resentment on the subject. He does not find one fact stated by you which would lead him to regret the course of management he has adopted in advocating the cause of Ireland. As to the present of the garland to George IV. he used it as a means of enlisting the King's feelings on the subject of Emancipation, and it was followed by the publication of Lord Sidmouth's letter. He feels no compunction on the consequences of his 'vow,' however insulting they may have been to himself personally. He thinks and regrets much that you should have betrayed great apathy in the cause of Ireland ever since the measure of Emancipation was effected. The post-boy is mounted and going to start, so I must hastily conclude this incongruous note, but I write it with more than ordinary pleasure. Believe," &c. &c.

In answer to this I wrote to the following purport. It was a great relief to my mind to learn that O'Connell had read those letters; for however my differing with his views might offend him, he would see at least that it was not without reflection I differed, nor without a deep and due sense of his great talents and services in our common cause. "I will confess to you (I went on to say) that much as I have always been in the habit of speaking freely of public men, this is the first time it has ever cost me a pang to do so. The cause,

the man (for I have ever personally liked O'Connell), the risk I ran and still run of losing by this step that popularity among my countrymen, which is the only reward that remains to me for some personal self-sacrifice; all this, I own, made it a painful and a bitter effort; but I should not have stood so well with my own conscience or self-respect, had I shrunk from it. The feeling began, as I have already told you, as far back as the visit of George the Fourth to Ireland, when I was living in Paris, and when Byron sent me those truly Irish verses of his, which I got printed at a French press, and distributed among the faithful. It was curious enough that while *he* vented his Italian feelings on the Irish, I discharged at the same time my Irish rage on the Neapolitans, in verses which you may perhaps have seen: 'Aye, down to the dust with them, slaves as they are.' With respect to what O'Connell says of my lukewarmness in the cause of Ireland, since the grant of Emancipation, he seems to have forgotten already the praises which he himself, under his own hand, bestowed upon me for the 'courage' of my 'Life of Lord Edward,' and the 'treasonous truths,' which he said that work contained. He little knew the extent of the courage he thus praised. It is easy to brave a *public*; but it was in defiance of the representations and requests of some of my own most valued friends that I published that justification of the men of '98—the *ultimi Romanorum* of our country. He appears also to have forgotten my last work, which, though as regards the rest of the world theological, is in its bearings on the popular cause of Ireland deeply political, and so was viewed by enemies who understood me, as it appears, far better than O'Connell. No, I have little fear that the historian (if he ever meddles with such 'small deer' as myself) will say that, hitherto, at least, I have shown any apathy in the cause of Ireland. How far the chill of years, increasing hopelessness as to the result, and such instances of injustice to my humble efforts as O'Connell has here set the example of; how far these combined causes may palsy me in years to come, I know not. But we must only hope for the best; and in the mean time, wishing you, my dear Lyne, among other blessings, less prosy correspondents than myself, I am," &c. &c.

October 1st to 4th. The Lansdownes gone on their trip to Brussels and Paris. Lady L., before she went, called and left for Bessy a beautiful tube rose, and heaps of flowers for her baskets.

5th to 7th. Sent to "The Times" a parody on "Come, Cloe, and give me sweet kisses," in reference to a passage in the Bishop of London's late Charge, "We want more churches and more clergymen," but they did not insert it, Barnes's *locum tenens* being, I suppose, scrupulous on account of the amatory nature of the song, and the bringing Cloes and churches in such close osculation together. After waiting for some days, sent the verses with a note to Fonblanque of "The Examiner," who wrote me a very cordial answer, in return; saying, that much as he prized my verses and the distinction thus conferred on "The Examiner," he still more valued the kind feeling expressed by me, &c. &c. Had told him the fact of the verses having been declined in the usual quarter through which I discharged my squibbery. * * *

29th. Being at Joy's, employed myself looking over the books till luncheon, after which we started with Mrs. Houlton and Catherine for Farley, which we found looking in full autumnal beauty. No company at dinner but a Mr. Langford, an intelligent young man, who has been a good deal in India. Some conversation with him on the subject, from which I found that he is strongly impressed with the idea of a European colonisation of India, in old times, like that of Odin. Says that the appearance of the people, in some parts, strongly bears out this opinion; and that Todd, the author of the splendid book on India (in which, certainly, many of the architectural drawings appeared to me, in the short glimpse I had of it, to be thoroughly European), is employed on a work enforcing this notion. Music in the evening.

November 2nd to 9th. As I have now nothing very particular for my daily records, I shall retrace my steps a little, and set down a few things that had escaped my recollection. During my visit to town, Rogers, one day, in speaking of Brougham, and remarking how well he often put some points in his speeches, gave as an instance what he had said in a late speech, on the subject of very young men, at

College, signing the Thirty-nine Articles; viz. that "they swallowed them first and digested afterwards." On hearing this, I could not help putting in quietly a claim for my own property, which the thought in question decidedly was; as not more than a week before Brougham made this speech, my verses on Phillpott's famous explanation of the *signing* had appeared in "The Times;" and that Brougham must have read these verses, his immediate interest in the subject was a sufficient guarantee. In that short squib were the two following lines:—

"Both in dining and signing we take the same plan,
First swallow all down, then digest—as we can."

When I mentioned this, Rogers seemed a little ashamed of himself, and took an opportunity afterwards of noticing the circumstance to Miss Rogers. It is too hard, when a great gun like the Chancellor condescends to discharge one of my pellets from his muzzle, that the original *pop-gun* should be thus forgotten. But so it is; station makes all the difference, even in a joke, and Shakspeare was for once wrong, when he said, "a jest's prosperity lies not in the tongue of him who makes it," for it does sometimes lie wholly there. While Corry was with me, during his late short visit, he mentioned some reader of my "Irish Gentleman" having expressed either wonderment or curiosity to him (I forget which) as to my being a Catholic,—or a Protestant, for I forget which also. But it is an odd thing that people will identify an author with his hero, let the hero be ever so obviously and (in this case) declaredly a fictitious one. I am not (unluckily for myself) one or two-and-twenty like my "Gentleman," nor do I live up two pair of stairs in Trinity College, nor have I been to Germany to consult Scratchenback. Why the deuce then must I *be*, or have *done*, any of the other things that my Irish hero *was* or *did*? All I have said in that book of the superiority of the Roman Catholic religion over the Protestant in point of antiquity, authority, and consistency, I most firmly and conscientiously believe; being convinced that the latter faith is but a departure and schism, widening more and more every day, from the system of Christianity professed by those who ought to know most about the matter, namely, the

earliest Christians. Thus far, my views agree with those of my hero, and I was induced to put them so strongly upon record from the disgust I feel, and have ever felt, at the arrogance with which most Protestant parsons assume to themselves and their followers the credit of being the only true Christians, and the insolence with which weekly, from their pulpits, they denounce all Catholics as idolaters and antichrist.

10th to 23rd. Hard at work. Nothing else of much moment to me, at least, but to my noble and right honourable friends, the Whigs, a most important event has happened, namely, their being suddenly turned out of office by his Majesty, after four years of dominion; during which more has been done to unsettle, not merely institutions, but principles, than it will be in the power of many future generations to repair. The curious part of the case is, that in the process of converting the great mass of the nation into Radicals, they have most of them transformed *themselves* into Tories. I was among the few (of my *own* party) who foresaw what would be the result of their mad rush into Reform, as may be seen from what I put down of my thoughts, in this Journal, at the time. The country is now fairly in for revolution, and stop it who can.

24th. Bessy went to Devizes for a little shopping, and to stay the night. My poor sister Kate, who, for many years, has been an invalid, now lies, I fear, in her last illness. Our accounts from dear Ellen, who is employed watching over her night and day, leave but little hopes of any other result. * * *

December 4th. A small plate of nice raspberries and cream brought up to me by my sweet Bess, being the third or fourth treat of the same kind I have had from our own garden within the last fortnight or three weeks; such has been the extraordinary mildness of the season. A visit from Lord Lansdowne. Walked about the garden with me for near an hour, talking chiefly of the late changes. "Well," I said, "you are now a free man." "Yes," he answered, "and *you*, at least, will not *condole* with me on my freedom." I have never, indeed, made any secret to any of them of my feelings of distaste at their being in office, nor of the little concern it would give me to see them out.

6th. Had written to Barnes, sending him a scribbled copy of a thing I had intended for the paper, but changed my mind while writing it; this being a crisis rather too serious for badinage. Told him my reasons for wishing it not to be published, and added, that though, as he well knew, I was but little disposed to take part with my friends, the Whigs, while in, yet that now they were out, and in their natural position, they would become, I thought, the true rallying point of the country, and that so he would himself, before long, discover. In his answer, which I received to-day, he but too truly points out the weak and helpless condition to which the Whigs had dwindled of late, adding, "Your attachment to them when out—an attachment which you certainly are not forward to express to them when *in*—does credit to your disinterestedness and manly feeling." He then expresses great anxiety that I should do something for the paper, choosing other subjects, of course, than those which I thought might, in any way, offend my Whig friends; at the same time adding, that if I could not even thus far assist them at present, his feelings towards me should still remain unaltered, &c. &c. Nothing, indeed, could be more kind and gentlemanlike than his note.

8th. After breakfast Lady Lansdowne would make me sit down to the piano-forte to sing for Lady Kerry, who, it appears, was most anxious to hear me. "Happened to be in good voice, and was not ill-pleased to hear *myself*, having seldom now any time for that indulgence at home. Lord L. offered to walk part of the way home with me, and Senior and Van de Weyer (the Belgian minister) joined us.

13th. The dear boys arrived from school. Tom looking remarkably well; Bessy with a little cold.

18th to 31st. From this time my journalizing has been far more interrupted and neglected than ever I remember it to have been since I began the task; the pressure of my "History" on one side, and the demands of society on the other, leaving me no disposable leisure whatever. About the middle of this month my poor sister Kate was released from her sufferings.

1835.

JANUARY 17th. Went frequently to Bowood. Had a long walk one day with Hallam, Lord L., and Sir A. Malet. A most agreeable tête-à-tête or two with Hallam, who is full of information, but have had no time to take notes.

20th. Had promised Lord Lansdowne to come over and meet Lord John when he arrived. Though run to the last extremity now for time, I must be hard pressed indeed when I could not find a moment for "Johnny." Found when I arrived at Bowood that he was not to come till to-morrow. Hallam there still, and Luttrell.

21st. Walked home after breakfast to work, and returned to dinner. Lord John just come. Highly pleased with the result of his election in Devonshire, and with all he had seen there. I had written to him immediately after the turn out of the Ministry, to say how much I rejoiced at the event: that nothing, I thought, could be more fortunately contrived for the future interests of the party than the moment and the manner of their ejection; as they would have been sure, before long, to have tumbled out, *proprio motu*, upon some not very popular grounds, perhaps; whereas now the responsibility all lay upon other shoulders, and they would be sure to be *relevés* in popular esteem by the event. This, if not in words, was at least the substance of what I wrote to him, and I added, in a postscript, that Mrs. Moore could not at all understand my being so glad at the turn-out. In a letter he wrote to me from Devonshire, he said, "I confess that I too was, like Mrs. Moore, somewhat puzzled by your congratulations, but, from what I have seen since I came among the people here, I am inclined to think you were right." He repeated the same thing to me now, and said that he had found many persons who, it appeared, had not been altogether pleased with him, as a Minister, now full of zeal for him as a popular candidate. * * *

February 1st. A most urgent note from Lord L. (whose mind has, on many points, all the eagerness and freshness of a boy's), endeavouring to make out to me that, by calling late for me on the one day, and depositing me at home at an early hour on the next, I should

really lose no time whatever by our expedition. Nothing could be more nice and playful than his attempts to convince me on the subject, and it went to my heart rather to disappoint him; but I felt that it would be a sure loss of two days to me, and pledged as I was now to a fixed time of publication, it was quite impossible for me to spare so much.

10th. Asked to Bowood for to-day to meet Lord Ebrington at dinner, but found on arriving that he was still detained in Devonshire. No one beside themselves, except Guthrie. Day very agreeable; slept there.

11th. The Longmans beginning to be alarmed at the state of my progress in the printing, and though working from morning to night, and despatching my corrections far more rapidly than I ought, am beginning myself also to be apprehensive that it will be impossible for me to be ready in time. Wrote to ask them whether, by any good chance, there was not some other "monthly gentleman" they could put in my place; but they answered "No; that Dr. Lardner, who was now in Paris, had depended upon my being ready; that my book had been very extensively advertised, and they had no other to substitute instead of it." Nothing left for me, therefore, but to run up to town, and see what I could do by working on the spot. Very worrying all this, and for the first time in my literary life making me feel myself a thorough *hack*. As I wrote to Rogers, some time since, "Had I anticipated this sort of thing, I would have seen Dionysius the Tyrant with his dead namesake before I would have tied myself to such a task." * * *

17th. "Hard pounding, gentlemen," as the Duke of Wellington, we are told, said at Waterloo. "Hard scribbling," say I. Had brought up a large box of books with me, and the facility of access to others here, as well as the proximity to the Devils, very convenient. Again dined with Co.; all very civil and kind.

18th. Dr. Lardner made his appearance, and the matter beginning to look serious, a consultation was held by us all in the little back parlour. I ought to have before mentioned, that when I came up to town I was under the apprehension, not only that there would not be time to print all I had written, but that I had not even written a sufficient quantity

for the average size of these Lardner volumes. This apprehension, however, had been dispelled by Rees informing me, on my arrival, that there was copy enough to print out to the amount of between 320 and 330 pages. It now appeared, however, that, calculating the notes to be in the same proportion as they had been hitherto (which was not likely to be the case), the whole of what was in hand would not make, at the utmost, more than 300 pages. What was then to be done? Lardner suggested that the volume should end abruptly, and the remaining pages be carried on into the next volume, so that they might be divided afterwards, on being bound up anew. But this was pronounced clumsy, and, indeed, impracticable. The whole thing was, of course, most disagreeable to me, who was the cause of all the difficulty; and I felt the more sorry, I must say, from the exceeding good temper and good nature with which they all bore it. I had suggested that, in an advertisement prefixed, I should take the whole blame of the deficient quantity on myself, but what rendered such deficiency particularly unlucky at this moment was, that the last volume also ("Lives of Eminent Persons") had been very much under size, and had been complained of accordingly by the cyclopædian readers. At last, after much deliberation and suggestion, it came out that what I had proposed from the country, — namely, that they should put some other "monthly gentleman" in my place, — *was*, after all, practicable, and would be adopted. They had, it appeared, a volume of the "Germanic Empire" in readiness, and, to my great joy, now agreed to produce it instead of mine. The only thing at all to be blamed in them was, that they did not do this from the first; but Longman, it appeared, had been particularly anxious to have my volume out. Felt myself comparatively now a free man (though aware that it would still require my utmost exertions to be ready even for the first of April), and towards five o'clock sallied out for a walk towards the West End.

I had begged of the Lansdownes (who came up to town the day after I left them) not to mention my being in London to *any one*, as I meant to remain buried in the Row till my task was finished. One of the first persons I now met at Brookes's was Lord Lansdowne, who burst out into exclamations on seeing me,

"What, you! the recluse of the Row, that wasn't to be seen or heard of; that gave me such injunctions of secrecy," &c. &c. He would hardly let me tell him the real circumstances of the case, so amused was he at my apparition in this very centre of the London world, after all my repeated and earnest injunctions.

19th. At work all day, but with somewhat less painful urgency. Towards evening set out for the West, intending to dine at Brookes's, if I met with nothing better. Found there a great number assembled, peers and others not members of the House of Commons, waiting the result of the great trial of strength this evening on the question of the Speakership. Immense anxiety, and reports of the progress of the debate coming in from time to time. Post hour at length approaching, and the letters still kept open for the chance of the news arriving in time to be communicated to country friends. But no intelligence arrived, and many sat down to seal their letters, when a young fellow (Dundas, I believe,) came running breathless into the room, and cried out, "Won it by ten! won it by ten!" He was soon encircled, and questioned, and pulled about by one and another, while the whole party hurrahed and shook hands, and were as uproarious as a party of school boys. Instantly all the letters that had been sealed were again opened, and every one sat down to communicate the joyful news to his correspondent; but had not proceeded far, when a sort of panic of doubt seized them all at the same moment as to whether the news just brought might be depended upon, Dundas's only authority for it having been a man whom he saw running into Abercromby's house (not far from Brookes's), and shouting upstairs to Mrs. Abercromby, "Won it by ten." All now sat looking at each other, bewildered with the unfinished letters before them, and even our enthusiastic informant himself was beginning to be infected with the general distrust, when a whole party from the House came trooping in (Denison, the mover of Abercromby, among the rest), and no doubt was any longer left of the victory. Denison himself was hurrahed, and hugged, and twirled about like a top, and the whole group gave one as little notion of a party of grave and mature legislators as can well be conceived. The cry was then, "Let's

all dine here." Some scruples were stated by one or two as to not being dressed, but these were soon overruled, and frock coats were the order of the day. I had before agreed with Lord Ducie to join him at the House dinner here, which had been prepared only for nine or ten persons; but we now sat down a party of more than thirty (the waiters having added what they could to the repast), and Denison was put in the chair, with the Duke of Argyle on one side of him, and Lord Ducie on the other. I got seated between young Moreton and old Sir R. Heron. Toasts were drunk with hip, hip, hurra, &c. and all was very merry. On our adjourning to the other room, found a number of the members assembled; among others, Lord Lansdowne, who said to me, "Why, you are the greatest *party* man going." He had asked me in the morning to come to dine at Lansdowne House on Sunday or Monday next. Rogers also among the assembled politicians.

20th. After some hours' work, set off westward. Wrote my letters at Brookes's, and from thence to Rogers's; a good speculation, as it turned out. His servant, on opening the door, asked eagerly, "Are you come to dine here, Sir? Mr. Wordsworth is coming." Found that Rogers, though engaged out himself, had asked Wordsworth and his wife, who are just arrived in town, to dinner. Mrs. Wordsworth not well enough to come, but Rogers, W., and myself sat down to dinner at half past five, and our host having done the honours of the table to us till near seven o'clock, went off to his other engagements, and left us *tête-à-tête*.

My companion, according to his usual fashion, very soliloquacious, but saying much, of course, that was interesting to hear. In one of my after-dinner conversations with the people of the Row lately, they had told me that they were about to publish a new volume of poems for Wordsworth, and that an interest was evidently excited by their announcement, which showed that the public were still alive to the claims of good poetry. They then expressed a strong wish that I would undertake a new poem; and on my saying, that I doubted much the power of any poet at this moment to make an impression upon the public, dosed as they had been with rhymes so *usque ad nauseam*, they all agreed, to my surprise,

in declaring that a poem from me would be as successful a speculation just now as any they could name, and all concurred in urging me to think of it. This, of course, was agreeable to me to hear; though I confess I am not the less sceptical as to the soundness of their opinion, men of business being (from their speculation, I suppose), the greatest of all castle-builders: we poets are nothing to them. Told as much of this to Wordsworth as he himself was concerned in, sinking or softening down my own share in the honour, though Rogers (who was by part of the time) *would* try and fasten upon me some little self-ostentation on the subject. This led to Wordsworth's telling me, what certainly is no small disgrace to the taste of the English public, of the very limited sale of his works, and the very scanty sum, on the whole, which he had received for them, not more, I think, than about a thousand pounds in all. I dare say I must have made by my writings at least twenty times that sum; but then I have written twenty times as much, such as it is. In giving me an account of the sort of society he has in his neighbourhood in the country, and saying that he rarely went out to dinner, he gave a very intelligible picture of the sort of thing it must be when he *does* go out. "The conversation," he said, "may be called *catechetical*; for, as they do me the honour to wish to know my opinions on the different subjects, they ask me questions, and I am induced to answer them at great length till I become quite tired." And so he does, I'll warrant him; nor is it possible, indeed, to edge in a word, at least in a *tête à tête*, till he *does* get tired. I was, however, very well pleased to be a listener.

Spoke of the immense time it took him to write even the shortest copy of verses,—sometimes whole weeks employed in shaping two or three lines, before he can satisfy himself with their structure. Attributed much of this to the unmanageableness of the English as a poetical language; contrasted it with the Italian in this respect, and repeated a stanza of Tasso, to show how naturally the words fell into music of themselves. It was one where the double rhymes, "*ella*," "*nella*," "*quella*," occurred, which he compared with the meagre and harsh English words "*she*," "*that*," "*this*," &c. &c. Thought, however

that, on the whole, there were advantages in having a rugged language to deal with; as in struggling with words one was led to give birth to and dwell upon thoughts, while, on the contrary, an easy and mellifluous language was apt to tempt, by its facility, into negligence, and to lead the poet to substitute music for thought. I do not give these as at all *his words*, but rather my deductions from his sayings than what he actually said. Talked of Coleridge, and praised him, not merely as a poet, but as a man, to a degree which I could not listen to without putting in my protest. * * * Hinted something of this in reply to Wordsworth's praises, and adverted to Southey's opinion of him, as expressed in a letter to Bowles (saying, if I recollect right, that he was "lamented by few, and regretted by none,") but Wordsworth continued his eulogium. Defended Coleridge's desertion of his family on the grounds of incompatibility, &c. between him and Mrs. Coleridge: said that Southey took a "rigid view" of the whole matter: and, in short, made out as poor a case for his brother bard (and prosier), as any opponent of the latter could well desire.

In speaking of Byron's attacks upon himself, seemed to think they all originated in something Rogers told Byron of a letter written by him (Wordsworth) to a lady who applied to him for contributions to some miscellany. Being in a little fit of abstraction at the moment, I did not well attend to the particulars of this anecdote; but it seemed to imply such gratuitous mischief-making on the part of Rogers, that, imperfectly as I had collected the facts, I pronounced at once that Wordsworth must have been misinformed on the subject. He said he would ask Rogers about it, and I intended to do the same, but it went out of my mind. In remarking upon the causes of an author's popularity (with reference to his own failure, as he thought, in—that respect), he mentioned, as one of them, the frequent occurrence of quotable passages,—of lines that dwelt in people's memories, and passed into general circulation. This, he paid me the compliment of saying, was the case very much with my writings; but the tribute was a very equivocal one, as he intimated that he did not consider it to be the case with his own,—and one knows well what he considers the standard of perfection. I did not like to

appear to bandy compliments, otherwise I could have contradicted his notion, that there were not many lines of his widely and popularly remembered. And here I do not allude to those which are remembered only to be laughed at, such as—

"I've measured it from side to side,
'Tis three feet long and two feet wide;"

or the doggerel of Peter Bell, &c. &c., but to such touching things as, "Thoughts that lie too deep for tears," and the imaginative line, "Whose dwelling is the light of setting suns," as well as several others of the same character that have spread beyond the circle of his devoted admirers, and become universally known. The night desperately wet; and Wordsworth, having to go but as far as Jermyn Street, while my destiny was the Row, very good-naturedly undertook to send me a hackney-coach (there being no servant to go for one), which he luckily succeeded in, and I got snug home. On the subject of Coleridge, as a writer, Wordsworth gave it as his opinion (strangely, I think), that his prose would live and deserved to live; while, of his poetry, he thought by no means so highly. I had mentioned the "Genevieve" as a beautiful thing, but to this, he objected: there was too much of the sensual in it. * * *

23rd. * * * Went from Lord Essex's to the Hollands. Found there Lord Brougham, Lord Melbourne, Cowper, Granville, Lord J. Russell, Duke of Richmond, &c. &c. It was amusing to see the Duke of Richmond with Lord John, whom he had not met for some time, and whom he patted on the back and played with like a school-boy, quizzing him good-humoredly upon some of the points on which they now differ in politics. It softens one's view of the public drama to see such goings on behind the scenes. * * *

24th. * * * Dinner at Rogers's: company Sydney Smith, Eastlake the painter, and another artist whose name I cannot now recall. Eastlake told of a dinner given to Thorwaldsen the sculptor, at Rome, Wilkie presiding in the chair, and making a very eloquent speech on the occasion, which it seems he is very capable of, though so tiresomely slow of words in society. In speaking of Thorwaldsen, he described him as "coming from the north to warm the marbles of the south with his genius;" and this poetical flight being

very much applauded, Thorwaldsen, who sat next to Eastlake, begged that he would interpret it to him. "He speaks of you," said Eastlake, "as a great artist *chi è venuto dal settentrione per riscaldar i marmi*." "*Riscaldar i marmi!*" exclaimed Thorwaldsen, puzzled at the metaphor, "*che vuol dire?*" "*Col suo genio*," continued Eastlake, which at once solved the difficulty, and very much to the great sculptor's satisfaction. "*Ah, sì*," he replied. Canova said of the numerous portraits painted of himself, that they were all different; and the reason was, that each artist mixed up, unconsciously, something of his own features with the resemblance. On Eastlake's mentioning this to Thorwaldsen, the latter said this was particularly the case with the heads done by Canova, as they were all like his own,—"*fin' ai cavalli*."

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27th. At work as usual in the morning. Dined at Holland House, and arrived but just as they had sat down to dinner, their hour being very early,—soon after six. Found there Burdett and Lord Plunket, and, about the middle of the dinner, came Lord John, in his frock coat, from the House, not having had time to dress. Talked of (what has been lately, it seems, mentioned in the House, though I do not remember to have ever before heard of it), the curious and disgraceful circumstance of our famous M'N—, in Dublin, having been for many years in the pay of the Irish Government, and regularly reporting to them the proceedings of the Liberals and United Irishmen he habitually lived with. Lord Plunket seemed to admit that there was no doubt of the fact. Lord Holland amused with my saying how much I used to look up to this L— M'N—, on account of some songs in a successful opera which he wrote,—"*Robin Hood*." I remember "*Charming Clorinda*" was one of the songs I used to envy him being the author of. M'N— was lame (having a dislocated hip), and Lord Plunket told the story of a limping man asking Keller (I think) one day, in the Court, "Did you see M'N— go this way?" "By G—, I never saw him go otherwise," answered Keller. It is said to have been in a duel that M'N— received the wound in the hip that lamed him; and, on a subsequent occasion, when he was again going out to fight, a friend

of his, when he was on the way to the ground, called him back and said gravely to him, "I'd advise you, Mac, to turn the other hip to him; who knows but he may shoot you straight." Mentioned this as a pendant to Lord Plunket's story. Was much struck by the strongly Irish manner of Lord Plunket; either this manner has increased, or else he was now under less restraint than on former occasions when I have met him; but it sounded in my ears *Dublin* all over. Some badinage of my Lady with Sir Francis, on his late libations in his political orbit.

We then passed to still higher ground, Rogers's good and kind qualities, the services he renders to people in distress, which I believe to be frequent. I mentioned the readiness with which he once advanced 400*l.* to Campbell to enable him to purchase a share in "*The Metropolitan*;" which circumstance Campbell himself told me, and which I believe I have mentioned in this Journal.—Campbell found afterwards that the speculation would not be to his advantage, and returned the money. I then adverted to my own experience of R's kindness in this way, saying (what is the simple fact) that he is the only man to whom when in want of money, I could bring myself to apply for assistance; that I *have* so applied, and of course not in vain. When I began saying that he was the only man to whom I could, &c. &c., Lady Holland said, "Yes, you little proud thing, every one knows that!"

Hobhouse came in the evening: had some talk with him. Told me that Byron's monument had arrived, but remained still packed up, the authorities of the Abbey still refusing to give it admission. To place it where Byron is buried would, he thinks, be throwing it away; but I don't know whether, after all, it is not (next to the Abbey) the best place. Burdett very kind and cordial in asking me to be a frequent visitor when his family comes to town, and to dine there whenever I have no other engagement.

28th. * * * Forgot to mention that I breakfasted in the morning at Rogers's, to meet the new poet, Mr. Taylor, the author of "*Van Artevelde*:" our company, besides, being Sydney Smith and Southey. Van Artevelde, a tall, handsome young fellow. Conversation chiefly about the profits booksellers

make of us scribblers. I remember Peter Pindar saying, one of the few times I ever met him, that the booksellers drank their wine, in the manner of the heroes in the Hall of Odin, "out of authors' skulls."

March 1st. Wretchedly wet day. Hard at work in Paternoster Row, as was also Tom at his Sunday exercise, I occasionally helping him. Dined at Rogers's, to meet Barnes: an entirely *clandestine* dinner. None of our Whig friends in the secret; and R. had been a good deal puzzled as to who he should ask to meet him. Tried Lord Lyndhurst, with whom Barnes is intimate; and he would have come had he not been engaged. Could then think of none but Turner the painter; and he, Barnes, and myself formed the whole of the guests. * * * Had some talk with Turner in the evening. Mentioned to him my having sometimes thought of calling in the aid of the pencil to help me in commemorating, by some work or other, the neighbourhood in which I have now so long resided. The recollections connected with Bowood (where so many of the great ones of the time have passed in review before us—Byron, Madame de Stäel, Mackintosh, &c.); the ancient and modern associations that give such a charm to Lacock Abbey; the beauty and music of Farley Castle; the residences of Bowles and Crabbe; the Druidical vestiges in so many directions,—all would afford subjects such as might easily be rendered interesting, while the natural beauties of this immediate neighbourhood, though hardly worthy, perhaps, of the pencil of a Turner, would supply scenes of calm loveliness, to which his fancy could lend an additional charm. All this I now put down here rather as what was *in my mind* to say to him than as what I actually did say; for he interrupted me by exclaiming, "But Ireland, Mr. Moore, Ireland! There's the region connected with your name. Why not illustrate the whole life? I have often longed to go to that country; but am, I confess, afraid to venture myself there. Under the wing of Thomas Moore, however, I should be safe." * * *

5th. Had now seen my volume through the press as far as the 300th page, and made up my mind to do the rest at home, having still to write as much as would fill between twenty and thirty pages more. Called at the

Charter House to take leave of the boys.—Saw Saunders, and had some conversation with him about Tom, whom he said he could now pronounce to be very much improved in every respect. The having his brother with him had, as he (S.) anticipated, steadied him; and being a boy of good principle, there was now, he thought, everything to hope from him.—Asked me what my intentions were respecting him, as it would be now soon necessary to decide, in order that he might regulate the remaining course of Tom accordingly. The sum allowed at college from the foundation was at first about 80*l.* a year, and afterwards about 100*l.*, making an average altogether (as I understood him) of 100*l.* a year. To this he added, to my astonishment, I should have to add 150*l.* a year: and gave it, as his opinion, that a boy ought not to have less! He must surely give me credit for having far more than I have or ever *shall* have to talk thus to me. But such is the ruinous system of English schools and colleges; the chief, and often the only thing they teach a youth is extravagance; and, from what I can learn, the tutors are among the foremost in encouraging this wasteful and demoralizing system: they seem to take a sort of vulgar pride in the style of living of their pupils. Endeavoured, without making too great a parade of my poverty, to let him understand how inconsistent with my humble means, or prospects, was the allowance of 250*l.* a year for my son's maintenance in college. * * *

Some talk with — about the present state of affairs. * * * On the whole, I must say, that the Whig party is fast losing, in my eyes, those claims to respect which I was once inclined to allow them. It has been, indeed, one of the natural consequences of the Reform Bill, that, in proportion as it has reduced the power of the Tories, it has improved, of course, the chances of the Whigs in all future struggles between them for power; and this change in the relative position of the two parties is bringing rapidly into play some of the most disagreeable characteristics of both. Long possession of place, and the apparent certainty of its future tenure, gave to the Tories all that repose which a consciousness of power usually generates; they could afford, from their feeling of security, to be civil, and even liberal; and their elevation being not

from birth, but position, and therefore accessible to all, was more intelligible, and therefore less offensive than pretensions derived from the Herald's Office. On the other hand, the Whigs were surrounded, from their political position, with extrinsic advantages and associations which threw into the shade or rendered inactive all that was intrinsically unpopular in them. The aristocratic pride which is chiefly found among that party was a good deal softened down, and even lost sight of, in their habitual advocacy of the cause of the people, and the intimate connection with popular leaders to which it introduced them; while the little chance there appeared, for many years past, of their being ever called to the direction of public affairs, made them far more efficient and thorough-going, as democratic leaders, by rendering hopeless all that sort of speculation on the possible turn of events which makes politicians in general farsighted and cautious, and leads them to *lance* in and shape their opinions while in opposition so as to fit them for future entrance into the narrow portals of power. All this is now changed, and, as far as regards the *individuals*, by no means for the better. In losing their power, the Tories have also lost temper; and (as happens with many other offensive things when disturbed) all the worst odour of their political doctrines is brought out by the alarm and agitation into which they have been thrown.

On the other hand, the short taste of the sweets of power with which the Whigs have been regaled has evidently intoxicated the whole party; and their bearing in authority, from wanting that mellowness which a long course of possession gave to the others, has the misfortune of being neither imposing nor conciliatory; but while it reminds one constantly of their station, too often fails, at the same time, to inspire much respect for it. When I say this I mean it of the party generally, and of almost all the *under-strappers*. Some of the leaders—as, for instance, Lord Lansdowne, Lord John, and, I may add, perhaps, Lord Melbourne,—furnish exceptions to the remark, though even they are far better men *out* of office than *in*. The aristocratic prejudices of the party have already been shown in their choice of the materials of their ministries; and the same patrician exclusive-

ness which drove Canning to adopt early the resolution of keeping clear of a party, by whose lordly branches he foresaw he would be overshadowed, still exists in full pride and force. Neither Canning, indeed, nor Peel, would have ever risen to be Prime Ministers, had they first started into political existence under the “umbrage broad” of the Whigs. What! the son of a cotton-spinner take the *pas* of a Lord Morpeth or a Lord Duncannon! Impossible! We shall before long, however, see what it will all come to; even in our own times we shall, I think, see the *dénouement*.

6th. Had promised Lady Holland to dine there to-day, but meaning to be off to-morrow, and having still quantities of things to do, thought it best to send an excuse. Breakfasted with Willis for the purpose of making some arrangement with him respecting my future Musical Works. On coming to talk with him, however, found his views to be very narrow indeed, his plan having always been (with Mrs. Hemans and others) to publish on *shares* with the author, and to take such a large share for himself as to leave almost nothing for any one else. He was, however, very fair about it; seemed himself to think that it was a plan I could not be expected to enter into, and finally advised that I should try Messrs. Cramer and Addison, as far more likely to suit my views. Played over for him some of the set I meant to dispose of, and he was evidently much pleased with them, saying that he hoped I should be able to manage to let *him* have two or three of them to publish.

Went from thence to Cramer and Addison's, and had a long talk with the latter. Nothing could be more frank or forthcoming than his manner. Urged much my naming a price for the things myself, and said that I ought to do as the great painters do, who fix a certain sum for a picture, below which they will not descend. Told him (what is the fact) that I never yet had set a price upon any work of mine, and did not well know how to begin now. After a good deal of conversation our interview ended in my leaving the songs (eleven in number and one to be added) in his hands, without the price having been settled; nor any other agreement made except that I was to draw, as I myself proposed, upon account, for 100*l.*, at three months, leaving the

rest to be arranged at some future period. This is always the fate of poor devils like myself, who, being in want of immediate supply, are unable to hold out for good terms. A man who did not so much want the 100*l.* at the moment, would have gained twice as much in the end. It made my heart, however, a good deal lighter, to be thus enabled to meet the little demands upon me at home. After having performed different commissions, dined quietly with Rees, packed up the books I wanted to take down with me, and got home early.

7th. Started in the "Emerald" for home.

8th to 20th. Set in hard at work at the remainder of my volume, never going beyond my garden, nor, indeed, tempted to go further; this neighbourhood, in the absence of the Lansdownes and the Fieldings, being to me always a *mare mortuum*.

21st. Sent up the last corrections. Had begun a short preface to prefix to the volume, but had not time to finish it, and so was obliged to let it go *without*. The following are a few of the sentences which I had sketched out.

"The following passage, which occurs in the advertisement prefixed to Sir Walter Scott's History of Scotland, I here transcribe with a feeling of pride as well as of grateful and mournful recollections:—'The author was invited to undertake this general sketch of Scottish History in connection with a similar abridgment of English History by Sir J. Mackintosh, and a History of Ireland by Thomas Moore, Esq. There are few literary persons who would not have been willing to incur much labour and risk of reputation, for the privilege of publishing in such society.' What this great man thus condescended to say, in that spirit of courtesy and good nature which formed so amiable a part of his character, it will easily be believed that I can assert with perfect sincerity and humility, namely, that the distinction of having my name connected, however unworthily, with those of two such associates was not the least attractive of my motives for undertaking it," &c., &c. I then proceeded to say that as far as this volume was concerned, I felt a hope that my labour would not appear to have been misemployed; and having shown how much had been already written on the subject of Irish

antiquities, and still how little was as yet known of them, from the scattered and indigested state in which all this information lay, I came to the conclusion that in laying these materials in a collected and intelligible form before the public, I was supplying what might be called a want in historical literature, and then meant to add that "to be able in these times, to produce a book that is really wanted, is one of the rarest of all the triumphs of literary success."

* * * * *

27th. A letter from my friend, the priest at Prior Park, who, it appears, has not received my book, though I ordered one of the first copies to be sent to him. In his letter he says, "In a hasty glance I have taken of your book, it struck me that you have adopted the common opinion in this country, of the doctrines of Spinoza being atheistical. Dugald Stewart, in his dissertation, prefixed to the 'Encyclopædia Britannica,' is very indignant that a professor of theology (Dr. Paulus) should have been the editor of his works (in 1802). The truth is, that the doctrines of Spinoza, as well as those of a man of great genius, though more unfortunate, Giordano Bruno, are quite the reverse. As philosophical systems I might regret both, but not on account of their atheistical tendency." In answering him, I said that "I certainly *was* under the impression very generally received, not only in this country, but among the learned of the continent (as Bayle's elaborate article on the subject proved) that the system of Spinoza was tantamount to Atheism; but that I should be very glad to find myself in the wrong, as Spinoza, from all the accounts of him, seemed to be a very good sort of a man, and, though evidently vain of his strange opinions, appeared to be conscientious in maintaining them." I might have added that the circumstance of Dr. Paulus (one of the German rationalist school), editing the works of Spinoza, would not much alter my notion of their orthodoxy.

A nice letter within these ten days past from my good, kind, and intelligent old friend, Mary Godfrey. In a former letter of hers, she had, after taking her usual Tory view of public affairs, said laughingly, that she was "sure I didn't agree with her, for I had always been fond of mischief in these matters." In my answer to this, I reminded her of what I had

written to her a few years since, when the Reform fever was at its height, and when I expressed the surprise with which I contemplated the career of my Whig friends "dancing so gaily down the precipice." In reference to this, she says in her last, "I remember your just remarks upon the Reform question, and what you say now upon the state of things is very striking." Had a letter also from Mackintosh's son, requesting me to contribute some remarks or recollections respecting his father, to the Memoir he is now employed upon. I thought at first that I had some memorandums of his conversations which I might communicate; but on looking over them, found that it would be hardly worth while.

28th to 30th. Am having down folios in abundance for my task, chiefly relating to the Danish part, Snorro, Torfaens, Langbecius [Langebeck] &c. &c. Forgot to mention a note from Napier, to whom I sent a copy of my volume. He says, "I need not say how much I am flattered by your present, and your friendly remembrance of me; you know I have the sincerest regard as well as admiration for you."

The day I met Wordsworth at dinner, at Rogers's, the last time I was in town, he asked us all in the evening to write something in a little album of his daughter's, and Wilkie drew a slight sketch in it. One of the things Luttrell wrote was the following Epitaph on a man who was run over by an omnibus:—

"Killed by an omnibus—why not?
So quick a death a boon is,
Let not his friends lament his lot,—
Mors omnibus communis."

As an instance of very close translation, he gave me the following of his own, from the well-known Greek Epigram *Χρυσον ανηρ ελπορ*, &c.;—

"A thief found gold and left a rope, but he who could not
find
The gold he left, tied on the rope the thief had left be-
hind."

The following are the passages I alluded to, in a former part of this Journal, as having given me such pleasure, when Martin Shee showed them to me in Captain Scott's "Naval Recollections." My having made myself so popular among those rough hearty tars, is a

pleasanter testimony to me than many from far more refined but less natural quarters. Bessy copied it from the book for me:—

"We were soon ready for sea, and a few days saw Mr. Merry and suite on board (the Phaeton). Mr. Moore, the famous modern Anacreon, likewise took his passage with us on his way to Bermuda. We quitted Spithead on the 25th of September, and in a short week lay becalmed under the lofty peak of Pico. In this situation the Phaeton is depicted in the frontispiece of Moore's 'Poems,' published soon after that gentleman's return from America. I was too young to appreciate his poetic powers (I even doubt whether I had heard of them), but I remember perfectly well that he appeared the life and soul of the company, and the loss of his fascinating society was frequently and loudly lamented by the officers long after he had quitted us in America." In a subsequent part, he says, "Mr. and Mrs. Merry left the Phaeton under the usual salute, accompanied by Mr. Moore, to the great regret of all those who had largely shared in the pleasure to be derived from the brilliancy of his wit and humour. The gun-room mess hailed the day of his departure with genuine sorrow."

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May 3rd. Bowles, who has not preached for a long time, was induced, by Mrs. Moore's entreaties, to give us a sermon this morning; and we were all much interested by his discourse. The manner in which it was delivered was very touching, and the feeling throughout *christian* in every sense of the word. Took a solitary walk before dinner, and found some very pleasant paths across the fields. Hughes at dinner. Sung with Callcott in the evening, to Bowles's great delight, some beautiful things out of Latrobe's Collection; a Benedictus of Mozart's, an Agnus Dei of Haydn's, &c.

6th. Received a letter from Rees, who had kindly undertaken to negotiate with my new people, Cramer and Co., the price they were to give me for the twelve songs they have in their possession, and six more I mean to furnish them with. After some valiant attempts of his to get a much larger sum than I should have thought of naming myself, they proposed to give at the rate of 15*l.* per song, which, in the present depressed state of the musical trade, is more than I expected.

7th. A letter from Lord John Russell, written, as appears from the date, on Sunday last, the day preceding that of the election, on which so much now depends. This letter, so honourable to him in every point of view, is as follows:—

“My dear Moore,—I have been too busy since I last saw you to be able to write on any but public concerns. Having, however, a little time to spare to-day, I wish to consult you on your own private affairs. I am now in a better position than I formerly was for serving my friends. Still there are very few opportunities of finding any situation that will suit a gentleman who does not belong to a profession. It has occurred to me, that a pension for one or both of your sons might be a source of comfort to you in days of sickness or lassitude. But, perhaps, on the contrary, the offer might be displeasing to you, and I do not like to speak to Melbourne upon it without consulting you. If you have anything else to suggest which is more agreeable to your wishes, pray tell me freely as an old friend, and I will answer you as a friend, and not as a minister.” * * *

9th. Answered Lord John's letter, as well as I can recollect as follows, not having kept any copy of my answer:—“My first feelings on receiving your letter yesterday were those of surprise, joy, and thankfulness. I had long, indeed, given up those dreams which may in former days have haunted me with respect to my chances of being ever thought of by my great friends in the way of place or office; partly because time and other circumstances have made me a different person to serve, and partly because I began to suspect that what Swift says in one of his letters might possible be the truth. ‘I never,’ he says, ‘knew a Ministry do anything for those whom they had made the companions of their pleasures.’ You have shown, however, that this is not the case; and I feel most gratefully, I assure you, your kindness in thinking of my poor wants in the midst of so many cares and distractions of your own. With respect to the manner in which you propose to serve me, by procuring pensions for my two boys, you have perhaps chosen the only mode of affording me pecuniary help which I should not instantly decline. I do not know whether I have told you, that when my father died, Lord Wellesley, then

Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, sent very kindly to me to offer a pension for my mother. This, however, coming as it did from a party adverse to my own political opinions, I thought it right to decline, and the Lausdownes, among others, were of opinion that my doing so was foolish. That I want help is but too true. I live from hand to mouth, and not always very sure that there will be anything in the *former* for the *latter*. You may have some notion of my means of my going on when I tell you that for my last published volume I received 750*l.*, and that I was two years and a half employed upon it. You should not have been annoyed at this View of the Interior, but for your own kind consideration of my wants; so you see what you have brought upon yourself. But to come to the point; to *be*, or *not* to be a pensioner, that is the question. If only myself, or even my other self into the bargain, were concerned, I think I should not hesitate as to the answer I would give; but I confess the responsibility of refusing such timely aid for my two poor boys is more than I can take upon myself to encounter. All I can say, therefore, at present is, that I leave the matter entirely in your hands, begging you to think, feel, and act for me in that capacity which you have always shown yourself so worthy to fill, of a sincere, warm friend. You may even, I think, call Lord Melbourne also into council, as I have known him at least long enough to count a little upon his goodwill. Whatever you and he think I *may* do, I *will* do. Ever,” &c. &c.

16th. A letter from Lady Lansdowne, in which she praises Mrs. Norton's novel as most excellent, and offers to lend it to Mrs. Moore, saying, that she is sure I shall like it whenever I can spare time to read it. A note, also, from Lord John, enclosing me one to himself from Lord Melbourne. The former is as follows:—

“My dear Moore,—I send you Melbourne's reply to my note, enclosing yours. His reasons for preferring the father to the children are perhaps good; at all events, I believe him to be strongly impressed with them, as he urged the same thing to me in conversation.

“I remain,

“Yours faithfully,
“J. RUSSELL.”

The following is Lord Melbourne's letter to him:—

"My dear John,—I return you Moore's letter. I shall be ready to do what you like about it, when we have the means. I think whatever is done should be done for Moore himself. This is more distinct, direct, and intelligible. Making a small provision for young men is hardly justifiable; and is of all things the most prejudicial to themselves. They think what they have much larger than it really is, and make no exertion. The young should never hear any language but this;—You have your own way to make, and it depends upon your own exertions whether you starve or not.

"Believe, &c.,

"MELBOURNE."

17th to 20th. A letter from Lord Lansdowne, in reference to a paper which I sent him some time ago, forwarded by Brabant from Germany, containing the opinion of Dr. Paulus, the famous German Rationalist, on the subject of the Irish Church surplus, which opinion Dr. P. wished to have conveyed either to Lord J. Russell or Lord Lansdowne. The Doctor therein quotes Skenkt, Bræmer, the decretal of Gratian, and other such authorities, highly worthy (as he evidently thinks) of being taken into consideration by the Ministers of Great Britain. As Brabant is a little crazy about every thing German, I had begged of Lord L. at least to acknowledge the receipt of the paper, which he does in this letter, adding, "Though I am afraid the name of Paulus would not necessarily propitiate our high churchmen, however great his authority, and his best chance with our Tory Lords would be their never having heard of him, still the authorities he quotes are doubtless valuable and authentic. But the real gist of the question neither these nor any other admitted precedent can really affect. If it was only necessary to prove that pious uses extended to education, the Church, if they resisted, would have the worst of it; and a cloud of arguments may be produced, which they can only meet by contending that *pia cause* imply at least pious education, and that no education is pious which admits of false doctrine being taught. There is our dif-

ficulty with the Protestant public here, whose attachment to their own Church is far surpassed by their hatred of another.

24th. Had fixed to go to-morrow (Tom and I) to Farley, Bessy having refused, and meaning only to go to Bath. A note in the evening from Corry, from the Bear Inn, Devizes, just arrived from town, and offering to come over to breakfast in the morning. Wrote to him the actual state of affairs.

25th. Off early in the donkey chaise for Melksham to take the coach for Bath, Tom riding. Too early by near an hour for the coach. Walked on. Found Corry, as I half expected, in the coach, and who should be on the top but H. B— (the famous caricaturist). Invited him inside with myself and Corry, to whom I introduced him. A good deal of talk; Corry full of all he had seen in town. Corry and I called at Crawford's; saw Mrs. Crawford, who flew off on the subject of her brother's (Lord Heytesbury's) late *estoppel*; very indignant, and no wonder. Rejoined H. B—, whom we found gazing very intently at one of his own last productions (The Merry-go-round) at the window of a print shop. Corry, who thought it was the first time he had seen it, very amusingly undertook to explain it to him. "This, you see, is Lord John Russell," &c. Not knowing what might be the present state of H. B—'s secret, I took him aside, and asked him whether it still continued to be as well kept as when I was last in town. He answered that it *was*, most marvellously so: that the *name* had got about a little, but nothing more. I then said that I would myself of course continue to respect the secret, as I hitherto had done, but that otherwise it would have given me great pleasure to let Corry into so amusing a mystery. Corry gave us luncheon (his dinner) at the York House, after which we all separated; Corry in the mail to Cheltenham, and I, with Mrs. Houlton, in her carriage, to Farley, Tom having rode thither direct. Company at dinner, Mr. and Mrs. Mee, Wilson, the Vivians, &c. Music in the evening. Mrs. Vivian at the guitar, as charming as ever. Sung with her and Catherine several Italian things, and my own songs in abundance.

28th. Houlton very kindly begged me to accept of the copy of "Strabo" I have had on

loan from him for some time past,—the fine Amsterdam edition, 1707, bound in vellum and gilt. Soon after breakfast set off in the carriage with the Vivians to join Bessy in Bath. Walked about with her and the boys, called upon Mrs. Crawford, &c., and set off all for home between 3 and 4. Forgot to mention, among the things Corry told me, his having called upon O'Connell, and in the course of conversation having alluded to the differences that had arisen between him, O'Connell, and two of his (Corry's) friends, meaning Maurice Fitzgerald and myself. As far as I could collect from him, O'Connell got rid of *my* part of the matter with his usual adroitness, complaining that I had linked my attack upon the poor Catholics (as he chose to call it) with "immortal verse."

June 1st to 9th. Working away both at my Second Volume and my Fudge affairs, which is, I think, turning out far more promisingly than I expected. Received a copy of an Italian translation of the "Loves of the Angels" (published at Milan), by Signor Andrea Maffei, accompanied by a letter from the translator, addressed, "*Per l'illustre e nobile Signore Tommaso Moore,*" and full of all sorts of flattering things about my *Divino Poema*.

Was reminded by Corry the other day of a few old jokes and stories, some of them not bad. Among other happy sarcasms of Redmond Barry on John Crampton, he said once in answer to Corry, who was praising Crampton's performance of some particular character a night or two before, "Yes, he played that part pretty well; he *hadn't time to study it!*"

10th. The boys' holidays being at an end (much to our regret), I went with them into Devizes to see them off by the "Emerald." Both are improving, thank God, in every way that we could desire. Having started them between eleven and twelve, went to call on the Scotts and the Nugents, who have been with them some days. Had agreed to return to an early dinner with the Hugheses, and to be taken home by them in the evening, but was persuaded by the Scotts to dine there instead. Day very agreeable, and got also taken home, as aforesaid, by the Hugheses, the weather being far too hot for much walking.

Have had some correspondence lately with a genuine Irishman of the old bitter anti-English breed, a Mr. —, a barrister, and the author of some works. In his first note (which I cannot now find) expresses his concern at seeing me *praised*, in an English newspaper, for having discarded the old Milesian Story of the Irish; and added, that coupling this with what I had before done respecting the "Irish Melodies," he could not but feel some apprehensions for my future fame. In answering, and thanking him for a copy of his book he had sent me, I took the opportunity of mentioning, that the article (in the "Morning Chronicle") which he had seen was extracted from an Irish liberal paper (the "Dublin Evening Post"), and that I was glad to say both the "Northern Whig" and the "Freeman's Journal," two other liberal Irish papers, had taken the same manly and sensible view of my manner of treating the Milesian Fable; so that whatever alarms he might have done me the honour to feel respecting my reputation on this score might be set thoroughly at rest. Received a long reply from him (accompanied by two more of his own publications), from which it appeared that his allusion to my conduct respecting the "Melodies" had reference to the opinion I expressed (in my "Introductory Letter") of the comparatively modern date of most of our popular Irish airs. Coupling this opinion, he says, with my attack on the "Old Don" (Milesius), he considered that "further sacrifices were about to be made to English feelings in the intended 'History,' and being of the common-sense opinion that the English, Scotch, and Welsh are *right* in retaining as embellishments round their history many national and aerial stories, that will not stand too close an examination, &c. &c., he sees no liberal-mindedness in yielding such points for Ireland, except where it is decidedly requisite to detect such errors," &c. &c. Having gone on at some length in this strain, he refers me for his opinions on Irish music to a letter inscribed by him in the "Dublin Penny Journal" some time since, and which he sends me. All this he concludes very civilly by offering to furnish me, in the course of my task, with all the assistance which his long researches among old Irish records may have put it in his power to afford. In my answer took care

to notice the confusion into which he has evidently fallen, in classing such national remains as the Border Songs and stories of Scotland, and the legends of England respecting Arthur and the Round Table, &c., with the mere downright and unromantic fictions of the Milesian fables; whereas (as I told him) the true English and Scotch counterparts to these latter figments are to be found in the story of the descent of the Britons from King Brute, and the long-exploded "Forty Kings of the Scotch."

12th to 30th. Had two amusing visits from Bowles. His profound astonishment at a card I showed him from the Duchess of Kent, inviting me to meet their Majesties the 25th of this month. "Good God, what an honour! You mean to go up, don't you?" His surprise on my telling him that I hadn't the slightest notion of doing so. Went to dine one of these days at Hughes's at Devizes. Was taken by Reverend neighbour Money in his gig, and returned with him at night. Our chief guest Dr. Thackeray, the Provost of King's. An anecdote of Dr. Barnes, who is now about ninety-five years of age, rather amused me. Being sometimes (as even younger men might be) inclined to sleep a little during the sermon, a friend who was with him in his pew one Sunday lately, having joked with him on his having nodded now and then, Barnes insisted he had been awake all the time. "Well, then," said his friend, "can you tell me what the sermon was about?" "Yes, I can," he answered, "it was about half an hour too long." It is possible this joke may be even older than Barnes himself, but I don't remember ever hearing it before.

Aug. 2nd. A letter from Lord John, telling me of a place just vacant, by the death of Mr. Lemon, in the State Paper Office, and making me an offer of it. Wrote to decline the kindness, but have not time just now to state the why or the wherefore. * * *

7th. To Liverpool by the railroad; a grand mode of travelling, though, as we were told, ours was but a poor specimen of it, as we took an hour and a half to do the thirty-two miles, which rarely requires more than an hour and a quarter or twenty minutes. The motion so easy that I found I could write without any difficulty *chemin faisant*. Went to the Post Office for a letter I expected from Lord Lans-

downe, enclosing an introduction which I had asked him to favour me with to some of his acquaintance in Liverpool. His letter, which I found waiting for me, contained one addressed to Mr. Currie, the son of the late literary Dr. Currie, and was also filled with matter far more important, which I shall here transcribe. I have already mentioned my having received before I left home a letter from Lord John, offering me the place of Head Clerk in the State Paper Office; salary 300*l.* a year, with coals, candles, &c. Lord John himself, in making this offer, expressly stated that he did not advise me to accept it (I cannot now find his letter); and the reason I gave for my refusal of it was, that the duties of the place, while they would occupy the whole of my time, would give me not near so much income as I was now making in a far more agreeable manner. To this correspondence Lord Lansdowne alludes in the letter I received from him at Liverpool, which, after a few words relating to the introduction of Mr. Currie, thus proceeds:—

"I now turn to a very different subject. Not having seen J. Russell that morning, I did not know when I wrote some hasty lines to you from the House of Lords that he had written that day to offer you the head clerkship of the State Paper Office. He has shown me this morning your letter wisely, I think, declining it. But the circumstance induces me no longer to delay writing to you, though I had intended waiting till I could see and talk to you at leisure. Various circumstances, at the same time, indicate that our ministerial life is more uncertain than ever, and I could not therefore forgive myself for not pressing what I am about to state on your consideration.

"Immediately after the Administration was reconstructed, I had some conversation with Melbourne about giving you a pension, which I was sure ought to be official, and *equally convinced* you ought to accept. He showed himself most willing, but told me there were no means left at our disposal. On reverting to the subject again within these few days, I recollected there was now or might be very soon an opportunity.

"Now let me implore of you to authorise me to bring this to a point. Let me ascertain whether, as I believe, the means now exist, and bring Melbourne to a point upon it. No hu-

man being can blame either the Government for giving or you for accepting. The Administration is one of a more popular character as respects your Irish opinions than any which has existed or is likely to exist; and your literary reputation is so established that there is not a country under the sun where literary rewards as distinctions exist, in which you would not be recognised as the first and most deserving object of them. I say nothing of your own particular feelings, but as far as public decision goes, I speak most confidently; indeed, much more so than I should with respect to such an appointment as that lately filled by Mr. Lemon, which was one of laborious detail. Let me therefore hear from you without delay. Indeed, though much hurried, I could not allow the day to pass without writing, and I will answer for Melbourne doing all that is possible; indeed, John told me he could now authorise me to say so distinctly. Yours ever, Lansdowne." * * *

8th. Landed at Kingston about seven, and proceeded to Salt Hill, the new tavern, where we breakfasted (in company with Sir Thomas Brisbane and Kane), dressed, and were then transported along the railroad to Dublin. Nothing could look more prosperous and *riant* than the whole of this approach to the metropolis. Left Hume at his brother's in Kildare Street, and proceeded to dear Nell's (11 N. Cumberland Street), where I found not only a warm welcome, which I was already sure of, but also rooms prepared for me as nice and comfortable as any lord could give me. This a most welcome surprise, as I had fancied she could not lodge me, and the being thus with *her* and at *home* makes all the difference in my comfort. She gives me her own bedroom, but has been accommodated with another one, over it, for herself. Lay down on the bed for a couple of hours, which a good deal refreshed me, and then sallied forth, Hume anxious for me to go and dine at Salt Hill with his brother, but I preferred a quiet dinner with Ellen at the Mearas. Milliken (whom I called upon before dinner) mentioned that he had received 50 copies of the *Fudges* this morning, and had already sold them all. * *

10th. Opening of the Meeting of the British Association; early in the field, getting tickets, &c., &c. Visited some of the sections, but found the interesting ones crowded and the

others dull. Dined at the ordinary at Morrison's. Near 300 people; Phillip Crampton in the chair. Sat next to Lord Cole, whom I have quizzed in rhyme, but nevertheless got on as friendly with him as if nothing had happened. Broke up early to attend the meeting at the Rotunda; found myself promoted to the platform, among the *sarans*. Walked through the room afterwards with Crampton to look for Nell, but could not find her, and almost lost myself in the crowd of gazers that surrounded me. It is most certainly a feeling of no ordinary kind that my countrymen (and to do them justice, countrywomen also) entertain towards me, and I should be worse than stock or stone if I were not *sensibly* alive to it. Came away early.

* * * * *

13th. Drove about a little in Mrs. Meara's car, accompanied by Hume, and put in practice what I had long been contemplating—a visit to No. 12. Aungier Street, the house in which I was born. On accosting the man who stood at the door, and asking whether he was the owner of the house, he looked rather gruffly and suspiciously at me, and answered "Yes;" but the moment I mentioned who I was, adding that it was the house I was born in, and that I wished to be permitted to look through the rooms, his countenance brightened up with the most cordial feeling, and seizing me by the hand he pulled me along to the small room behind the shop (where we used to breakfast in old times), exclaiming to his wife (who was sitting there), with a voice tremulous with feeling, "Here's Sir Thomas Moore, who was born in this house, come to ask us to let him see the rooms; and it's proud I am to have him under the old roof." He then without delay, and entering at once into my feelings, led me through every part of the house, beginning with the small old yard and its appurtenances, then the little dark kitchen where I used to have my bread and milk in the morning before I went to school; from thence to the front and back drawing rooms, the former looking more large and respectable than I could have expected, and the latter, with its little closet where I remember such gay supper-parties, both room and closet fuller than they could well hold, and Joe Kelly and Wesley Doyle singing away together so sweetly. The bedrooms and garrets were

next visited, and the only material alteration I observed in them was the removal of the wooden partition by which a little corner was separated off from the back bedroom (in which the two apprentices slept) to form a bedroom for me. The many thoughts that came rushing upon me in thus visiting, for the first time since our family left it, the house in which I passed the first nineteen or twenty years of my life may be more easily conceived than told; and I must say, that if a man had been got up specially to conduct me through such a scene, it could not have been done with more tact, sympathy, and intelligent feeling than it was by this plain, honest grocer; for, as I remarked to Hume as we entered the shop, "only think, a grocer's still." When we returned to the drawing-room, there was the wife with a decanter of port and glasses on the table, begging us to take some refreshment, and I with pleasure drank her and her good husband's health. When I say that the shop is still a grocer's, I must add, for the honour of old times, that it has a good deal gone down in the world since then, and is of a much inferior grade of grocery to that of my poor father, who, by the way, was himself one of nature's gentlemen, having all the repose and good breeding of manner by which the true gentleman in all classes is distinguished.

Went, with all my recollections of the old shop about me, to the grand dinner at the Park: company, forty in number, and the whole force of the kitchen put in requisition. Sat at the head of the table, next to the carving aide-de-camp (Lady Emily Henry's son), and amused myself with reading over the *menu*, and tasting all the things with the most learned names. Had Hamilton, our great astronomer, at the other side of me, and, ignorant as I am, got on very tolerably with him.

14th. A note from the Lord Lieutenant this morning, saying: "Dear Moore,—If you like to dine quietly at half-past six, I shall have more opportunity of talking to you then than at those gigantic boards. There will be nobody but Wilkie, as I am going incog. to the play as soon as it is dusk; and then you can revert to the Rotunda if you like it. Ever yours, Mulgrave." Told Liddel (who gave me the note) of my engagement to a private dinner at the Provost's [Dr. Lloyd]. Forgot to mention

that I called to leave my name at the Provost's, his civility to me since I came having been most marked and liberal. Found himself in the court-yard, and he took me into the house with him. In referring to his speech the other night at the Rotunda, on the reconcilability of geology with the Mosaic account of the Creation, of which there appeared a report since in the newspapers, and which I now praised to him, he said that he was glad it met with my approbation; that he knew I was a theologian myself; and though we differed very much on some points, it gave him pleasure to be praised by me. This all very good-tempered and handsome of him. * * *

Was introduced to a gentleman (I forget now his name), and to his wife and daughter, who told me that they were in possession of a very curious relic of my younger days, namely, the first notation I made in pencilling of the Canadian Boat Song, in going down the river St. Lawrence. Told them that I had not been in the least aware of the existence of such a thing, and that it would be as great a curiosity to myself as it would be to any one else. On my expressing a wish to see it, told me that they would bring it down for the purpose; and appointed Milliken's, next day, at one o'clock, for our meeting.

15th. Called at one o'clock at Milliken's, according to appointment. The gentleman himself came alone, bringing the autograph, which is *bona fide* my own. One of my travelling companions (for we were three) in going down the St. Lawrence, was Hackness, the son of a rich merchant in Dublin, and is now, I believe, dead. To him I made a present of a book which I had with me to read on the way, "Priestley's Lectures on History;" and on a fly-leaf of this book was written the notations of the air, and the French words as follows, for I took a hasty copy of them:—

"En revenant d'un boulanger
Dans mon chemin j'ai rencontré
Deux cavaliers très bien montés."





Then follows (written at the same time, and in pencilling also), the air as it *now* is (in one flat), and with the English words of the first verse written under the music. This all confirms me in an impression which I have always entertained, though not strongly enough to allow me to lay claim to the air, that the music of the Canadian Boat Song is in reality my own, having been merely suggested by the above wild, half-minor melody. As the gentleman wished me to attest the authenticity of the autograph, I put under it the following: —“Written by me, in descending the River St. Lawrence, during my tour through America. Thomas Moore.”

The play-bill of to-day and yesterday having announced the entertainments of this evening to have been selected by me, &c., &c., went to look at the box-book, to see what sort of promise it gave. Numbers of names down, but none of any persons that I knew. The Great Lion Feast of to-day being the dinner given in the College Hall by the Provost and Fellows of the University, went there in time to be present at the *knighting* of Professor Hamilton, which took place in the noble library, where the company assembled before dinner. The whole thing well judged and well done. From thence proceeded to the dining hall, my ticket being for the Lord Lieutenant's table, where the select were stationed. Got between Babbage and Col. Colby, the latter of whom, by the way, had sent me, on my arrival in Dublin, the first published volume of the Ordnance Survey, got up under his direction; a work which promises to be very useful. Found Babbage very off-handed and agreeable. As soon as the company rose, which was not till near ten o'clock, set off for the theatre, accompanied by Hume. Overtook Col. D'Aguiar, who joined us, and all went to Calcraft the manager's box, which I had bespoke for my *first* show-up. Found that the audience had been getting rather impatient at the long

delay of my appearance. Shouts of “Moore!” and rounds of applause on my first showing myself; but it was evident they thought the place I had fixed upon too retired; and many comical *hints* of this feeling were given to me from the galleries; such as “Tom, don't be shy!” “Come, show your Irish face, Tom; you needn't be ashamed of it!” This latter appeal gave me an opportunity of making what the actors call “a hit,” for I immediately stretched forth from the box, and, in a very sincere fit of laughter, bowed round to the whole house, which produced peals of laughter and plaudits in return. Thinking it was now time to put myself more *en evidence* before them, I went down to the pit-box taken by the Mearas for themselves and my sister, and planted myself by the side of Ellen, in the front row. Then came, indeed, the real thunder of the gods. The people in the pit stood up and hurrahed; and many of them threw up their hats, trusting to Providence for their ever returning to them again. I then saw, to my horror, that there was a general expectation I should make them a speech; but, thinking it impossible that I could be heard, I resolved to make *that* my excuse—at least to those near me. But, to my still greater consternation (for I really knew not what to say), I found, on the very first opening of my lips, that the whole house, by one common and instantaneous consent, became as mute as a churchyard. I had nothing for it, however, but to go on and plead, in the very face of all this silence, the impossibility of my voice being heard through such a space, adding only that they could not doubt how much I felt their kindness, and how much I should *ever* feel it. I then sat down amidst as many and hearty plaudits as ever crowned the most sublime oration. Numbers in the pit crowded towards the box to shake hands with me; and as I was obliged to stoop down to reach their zealous grasps, Ellen was afraid, as she told me afterwards, that I should be pulled over by them into the pit. The farce, which had been interrupted all this time, and the actors left standing on the stage, to gape at *our* performance, was now suffered to proceed; and after remaining about ten minutes longer, I thought it as well to take my leave. A number of persons rushed out of the boxes to meet me in the

lobby; and being cheered and bowed along by them most cordially, I got to the carriage that was waiting for me, and dashed off at full speed to the Park, where I had been invited to stop by the Lord Lieutenant. Found them nearly on the point of sitting down to supper. Took my place next Lady Campbell, with whom I had some conversation respecting my "Life of Lord Edward," there having occurred some awkwardness between her and me on that subject. * * * After supper I sat down to the pianoforte, and sung some songs, wherewith they were all pleased to be pleased. Returned home as rapidly as I came (about one o'clock), with the hope of catching another supper-party, namely, Nell and her companions, from the play, which I accordingly did; for there were assembled there Mulvany and his pretty sister, and Georgiana O'Kelly; and so, with them and plenty of laughing and soda water, I concluded the gaieties of the night. Forgot to mention that, before dinner, I was present at the Royal Irish Academy, when Swift's skull (as it is supposed to be), lately *déterré*, was placed in the hands of Dr. Combe. The exceeding depression of the front region of this skull (so inconsistent with what phrenology would expect in the head of Swift) was accounted for, according to Combe, by the long period during which Swift's mind was deranged; such a depression of the bone being, he says, a frequent consequence of a disordered brain. This the anti-phrenologists (Dr. Greaves and others) denied, and appealed to the testimony of keepers of lunatic asylums for the fact of no such change ever occurring in their patients. In addition to this phenomenon in the skull of Swift, Dr. Combe found also the animal organs, combativeness, destructiveness, &c., so strongly developed in this supposed skull of Swift, that it was his opinion, if the owner of that skull had been born in a low sphere of life, he would most probably have been led by his natural propensities to the gallows. On his mentioning that the organ of benevolence in this skull was remarkably small, I asked him where that organ lay; upon which he placed his hand somewhere on the top of my head, saying, "There," adding, "and, by the way, you have it to a very considerable degree." This, I suppose, is what forms the counter-

balance to my organs of combativeness and destructiveness, which Deville told me (with-out at the time knowing who I was) were of as great magnitude as in any head he had ever put out of his hands. * * *

18th. * * * Dined with the Reverend Mr. Cooper and the clergy of Marlborough Street, who had asked Hume also along with me. A large party, consisting of Archbishop Murray, a good many priests, and a few laymen. Nothing could be more hearty and jovial than the dinner. A good deal of singing by the Reverends; one gave an Irish melody not badly, and Tom O'Meara (who was of the party) sung verses of his own, in honour of me and my "lovely wife," got up for the occasion. The Archbishop, a mild, quiet personage, had listened to O'Meara and myself discussing the merits of Lysaught's and Captain Morris's drinking songs with most gentlemanlike patience. Had sent an apology to Miss Farrel's evening party, and got home early.

19th. Went with Dr. O'Beirne to see the House of Industry and Lunatic Asylum. The day desperately hot, and myself not in the best cue for such an operation. Introduced to Major Edgeworth, who presides over the Institution. Nothing can be more neat or more admirably managed. Some of the lunatic cases very frightful, and will long haunt me. In the room where the bad female cases were, was surprised to see, among the desperate specimens of the sex there assembled, a young and rather good-looking girl, with her hair in very neat order, and looking like a milliner's apprentice. She sat quietly by herself, and I at first took her for one of the attendants of the place; but Major Edgeworth, having prefaced his account of her by saying, "She is no more insane than you or I," told me that, in consequence of having been seduced and deserted, the poor girl had taken an immense quantity of laudanum, with the determination of destroying herself. When with difficulty recovered from the effects of this, she again took an opportunity of attempting her life, and still persisted in her resolution not to live. Her friends then adopted the strange step of placing her among these desperate women, where, whatever madness there may be in her already will be sure to be made worse.

On Major Edgeworth saying to her, "I hope you feel comfortable," she answered mildly, "Not very, sir." I could not bring myself to speak to her. Saw in the Lunatic Asylum, Mason, the man who assassinated Sneyd. Glad to escape from it all home; and finding Mrs. Cuming with her carriage in Cumberland Street, waiting to take Nell and me to pass the day at her country villa, set off, delighted to get a little fresh air and rest. I had myself proposed this plan to the Cumings, and they very promptly and hospitably accepted of me.

20th. Walked about the grounds, and went with Mrs. C. through her pretty garden; after which she took Nell and me into town. With Ellen's assistance looked over the letters, cards, &c., that have accumulated upon me, and found them quite awful. Dined with Arthur Hume out at Salt Hill; a large male party. Philip Crampton, Tom Hume, Tickell, Dr. Madden, old Casey, Meara, Captain Hume, &c. &c. Learned from Dr. Madden that *he* was the person (being then a boy and apprentice at Planché's, our Paris apothecary), who sent to us once, very much to Bessy's and my amusement, an inscription in honour of my genius, written neatly round the cover of a box of pills. Told me of the strong enthusiasm which he at that time felt about me; that he used to walk out to where we lived in the Allée des Veuves, merely to have the pleasure of looking at the house where I resided. Old Casey still very agreeable, and far better worth listening to than many of the young snipper-snappers of his profession who were now showing off before him, and apparently tolerating his senilities. * * *

24th. * * * Before I left home, this morning, received the following letter from Lord Lansdowne. It ought to have been mentioned, when I noticed the receipt of his former letter to me at Liverpool, that I wrote a hasty answer to that communication from Mr. Currie's office, in which, expressing the gratitude I felt both to him and to my other kind friends, Lord John and Lord Melbourne, for their thoughtful attention to my interests, and adding some apology for the hurry in which I was obliged to write, I said that, with respect to the mode of providing for me which he suggested, I should trust myself entirely to his guidance, convinced that what *he* thought

right and honourable for me to do could not be considered otherwise by the public in general. The following is his letter of this morning:—

"London, August 22d.

"My dear Moore,—I lost no time in getting the business completed after I got your answer to my letter, and the grant of 300*l.* per annum is actually made, and has been mentioned by Lord Melbourne to the King, who made no objection. I should tell you it is the first pension granted since the Administration has been reconstructed, and, together with one to the same amount to Lady Napier, whose husband died, as you know, in the public service in China, about to be granted, will exhaust the whole means now at the disposal of Government. Indeed, I hope for the future, pensions will speak for themselves, and only represent the merit of those who have them; and as such you must consider yours, which would be due from any Government, but much more from one some of the members of which are proud to think themselves your friends. I have no time for more. We see no prospect of escape at present, thanks to the House of Lords.

"Yours, ever most truly,
"LANSDOWNE."

Scribbled a few lines before I left home to my sweet Bessy to inform her of this good news.

25th. * * * After breakfast the landau and four was again at the door, and with a most clear morning, promising a delicious day, we set off for the Vale of Avoca and the Meeting of the Waters, Kennis's two sons being now of the party. I had not been in this beautiful region since the visit (ages since, it seems) which gave birth to the now memorable song, "There's not in this Wide World," &c. How wise it was of Scott to connect his poetry with the beautiful scenery of his country! Even indifferent verses derive from such an association a degree of vitality which nothing else could impart to them. Felt this strongly to-day while my companions talked of the different discussions there were afloat as to the particular spot from which I viewed the scene; whether it was the First or Second Meeting of the Waters I meant to describe, &c. &c. Told them that I

meant to leave all that in the mystery best suited to such questions. Poor William Parnell, who now no longer looks upon those waters, wrote to me many years since on the subject of those doubts, and mentioning a seat in the Abbey churchyard belonging to him, where it was said I sate while writing the verses, begged of me to give him an inscription of two lines, to that effect, to be put on the seat. "If you can't tell a lie for me," said he, "in *prose*, you will, perhaps, to oblige an old friend, do it in *verse*." Nothing could be more favorable than the weather during our drive through this lovely scene; and I confess I could not help looking upon it with a degree of *pride*, and almost *ownership*, feeling that my property in it might be, perhaps, durable as its waters. What would the squires have said if I had thus compared properties with them?

After I had feasted my eyes as much as the time would admit of in this enchanting place, we proceeded on to Gorey, where I was to take the coach for Enniscorthy. Arrived just in time; and having bid adieu to the landau and my companions (leaving even Hume behind), I went on to Enniscorthy, doubtful which was to be my route after. When we arrived at the inn door, a girl ran breathless out, asking if Mr. Moore was in the coach. I then found that Boyse was there waiting for me, and that his plan was for us to dine and sleep there, and proceed to Bannow in the morning either direct or by way of Wexford. Found myself not in the least degree disappointed in the highly favourable impression which Boyse's letters had given me of him. Evidently a well-informed, off-hand, gentleman-like person. A very agreeable dinner together, during which he detailed to me a good deal respecting the preparations made for receiving me at Bannow, expressing his regret, however, that this being the critical time of the year, when the people were getting in their harvest, the multitudes that otherwise would have flocked to meet me must necessarily be much diminished. Before dinner had a most delicious walk by myself along the banks of the river Slany, which, for two or three miles out of the town, are full of beauty, and this sunny evening was quite worthy of them. It was likewise delightful to me to be *alone* in such a scene, for it is only alone I can enjoy

Nature thoroughly; men and women disturb such scenes dreadfully.

26th. After breakfast set off for Wexford in a chaise and four, Boyse thinking we should have full time for my visit to the corn-market (an old recollection of mine) before we proceeded to our Bannow friends. The weather still most prosperous. While horses were getting ready, Boyse and I walked to the corn-market. It was when I was quite a child, that Mr. and Mrs. Redmonds, old friends of our family, took me down to Wexford to see my grandfather, Tom Codd (my dearest mother's father), and I have a strong recollection of my going to a ball there one night, and coming home from it *alone*. This appeared to me as a child a most manly and independent achievement; but I have always suspected since that the Assembly Rooms must have been very near my grandfather's house, and this I now found to be the case, not more than a door or two lying between them. So mighty do small things appear to the child!

While I was looking at this locality, a few persons had begun to collect around me, and some old women (entering into my feelings) ran before me to the wretched house I was in search of (which is now a small pot-house), crying out, "Here, Sir, this is the very house where your grandmother lived. Lord be merciful to her!" Of the *grandmother* I have no knowledge, for she died long before my youthful visit here; but I have a pretty clear recollection of little old Tom Codd, my grandfather, as well as of some sort of weaving machinery in the room up-stairs. My mother used to say he was a provision merchant, which sounded well, and I have no doubt he may have been concerned in that trade, but I suspect that he was also a weaver. Nothing, at all events, could be more humble and mean than the little low house which still remains to tell of his whereabouts; and it shows how independent Nature is of mere localities that one of the noblest-minded, as well as most warm-hearted, of all God's creatures (that ever it has been *my* lot to know) was born under that lowly roof.

Wrote a hasty letter to my sweet Bess before we started, and then set off in gay style, rosettes at the ears of the horses (four very dashing posters), cockades in the hats of the

boys, &c. Several groups whom we saw in the fields on our way, too hard at work at the harvest to join our sport, stood up and cheered us heartily as we passed. As we approached Bannow, Boyse was evidently anxious lest the doubt that had existed as to my time and way of coming might have caused a dispersion of the multitude, and so produce a failure in the effect of the cavalcade. We now saw at a distance a party of horsemen on the look-out for us, bearing green banners, and surrounded by people on foot. This party, which turned out to be a mere detachment from the main body, now proceeded in advance of us, and after a short time we came in sight of the great multitude—chiefly on foot, but as we passed along we found numbers of carriages of different kinds, filled with ladies, drawn up on each side of the road, which, after we had passed them, fell into the line and followed in procession. When we arrived at the first triumphal arch, there was the decorated car and my Nine Muses, some of them remarkably pretty girls, particularly the one who placed the crown on my head; and after we had proceeded a little way, seeing how much they were pressed by the crowd, I made her and two of her companions get up on the car behind me. As the whole affair has been described in print (diffusely and enthusiastically enough, Heaven knows!), I shall not here waste time and words upon it, though certainly it would be difficult to say too much of the warmth and cordiality of feeling evinced by the whole assemblage, as well as the quickness and intelligence with which the very lowest of them entered into the whole spirit of the ceremony. In advance of the car was a band of amateur musicians, smart young fellows, in a uniform of blue jackets, caps, and white trowsers, who, whenever we stopped at the arches erected along the road, played some of the most popular Irish Melodies, and likewise more than once, an air that has been adapted to Byron's "Here's a health to thee, Tom Moore." As we proceeded slowly along, I said to my pretty Muse behind me, "This is a long journey for you." "Oh, Sir!" she exclaimed, with a sweetness and kindness of look not to be found in more artificial life, "I wish it was more than three hundred miles." It is curious, and not easy, perhaps, to be accounted for,

that as I passed along in all this triumph, with so many cordial and sweet faces turned towards me, a feeling of deep sadness came more than once over my heart. Whether it might not have been some of the Irish airs they played that called up mournful associations connected with the *reverse* of all this smiling picture, I know not, but so it was.

When we arrived in front of the Graigue House, the speeches from Boyse and myself (as reported) took place; Boyse very eloquent, and evidently in high favour with the people. I then went with him to his new house, or rather the few fragments of the old one he has left standing; the offices being all that are as yet built of the new. He had told me before I came that I was literally to dine in one cock-loft and sleep in another; but I found he had given me up his own bed-room, which was on the ground-floor, and left standing quite alone, all around it having been thrown down. It was, however, made very comfortable by dint of green baize curtains, &c. &c. Was now introduced to his mother, a very fine handsome old lady, about eighty-one or so; and his maiden sister, a nice, intelligent, and very amiable person; and likewise a little round, joyous girl, their niece, between fourteen and fifteen years old, who, I was told, could not conceive what sort of a thing a *bard* was, never having seen one, and had been, accordingly, most anxious for my arrival. Old Mr. Boyse (about the same age as the mother) was confined to his bed with illness, and I did not see him all the time I remained. Before dinner Miss Boyse drove me in her pony chaise to see the grounds of the Graigue House, a new property they have lately purchased, and the same that Boyse wrote last summer to offer to me and my family in case I should wish for a quiet retreat for two or three months. We fancied it, from his description, to be a small cottage overhanging the sea; but it is, in fact, a large house with extensive pleasure-grounds, and the walk to the sea (a sort of garden walk all along) is not less, I should think, than three quarters of a mile in length. Miss Boyse, her niece, and I took this walk after dinner, and the open breathing-space over the sea felt highly refreshing.

27th. Prepared, while dressing, my short

answer to the deputations which, I understood, were to wait upon me. Found that there had been bonfires lighted in various directions during the night. Proceeded towards twelve o'clock to Graigue, where we found a great part of the crowd of yesterday reassembled in their gayest trim, this day being devoted to a *fête* for the lads and lasses on the green. Went through my reception of the different addresses very successfully, and (as Boyse told me afterwards) spoke much louder and less *Englishly* than I did the day before. I find that the English accent (which I always had, by the by, never having, at any time of my life, spoken with much brogue,) is not liked by the genuine *Pats*. Among other introductions I was presented in form to the reverend president of Peter's College and a number of Catholic clergymen who accompanied him. Just as I was approaching this reverend body, I saw among the groups that lined the way, my pretty Muse of yesterday, and her young companions, still arrayed in their green wreaths and gowns. Flesh and blood could not resist the impulse of stopping a minute to shake hands with a few of them, which I did most heartily, to the great amusement of all around, not excepting the reverend president himself, who had been approaching me with a grave face when I was thus interrupted; and who, immediately joining in the laugh, said, very good humouredly, "I like to see *character* display itself."

After these ceremonies were over, Boyse took me in his curricule to see some points of view in his immediate neighbourhood; not the most agreeable part of our operations, as I saw he was not much in the habit of driving, and one of the horses was what is called "an awkward customer." After driving about a little (the roads being like avenues, and everything, in short, wearing a face of comfort and prosperity) we went to the house of an honest Quaker, Mr. Elly, one of those most zealous, Boyse told me, in organizing all the preparations for my reception. There we found a large party assembled, and a *déjeûner* prepared; the young amateur band being in attendance, and playing occasionally my songs. The situation of the villa, commanding a view of the Tintern shore, appeared to me, except for the want of trees, very beautiful, and a large flag waving

from the top of the house displayed the words, "Erin go bragh, and Tom Moore for ever." The *déjeûner* (*i. e.* the eating part of it) was provided, ungallantly enough, for the males alone; an anomaly, of which I had already witnessed another instance at the Zoological Gardens, in Dublin, where it was not till after the men had feasted that the ladies were admitted into the gardens. Dined, as the day before, with Boyse's family party, and all went afterwards to the *fête* at Graigue, where we found them in high dance and glee. The music being very inspiring I took out my young Muse (Boyse having, in spite of his lameness, turned out with another), and after dancing down a few couples, surrendered her (very *unwillingly*, I own) to her former partner. Should have liked exceedingly a little more of the fun, but thought it better, on every account, to stop where I did. Among other reasons, I feared that Boyse might think it necessary to go on as long as I did.

Two very nice Quaker young women were among the crowd looking at the dancing, and as I had taken some pains to place them where they could have a good view, one of them, encouraged by this attention, said to me, very modestly, "If it would not be asking too much, I should like to have two lines of thine, with thy name to them." Promised, of course, that she should have them. In the course of the evening a green balloon was seen ascending above the dancers' heads, with "Welcome, Tom Moore," upon it. When it grew dusk, Miss Boyse, her niece, and myself, came away, leaving the dancers to keep up the *fête*, as they did, I believe, till near morning. Wishing for a solitary walk to the sea, I asked Miss Boyse to direct me to the path we had taken the evening before; but, with my usual confusion as to localities, I missed the right way, and could find nothing but those smooth roads which I had admired so much in the morning, but felt *now* rather inclined to anathematise, having seldom ever thirsted more keenly for actual beverage than I did at that moment for a draught of the fresh sea air. In the course of the day the letters I am about to transcribe were sent to Boyse and myself, by express, from Wexford; and I really think them worth preserving, as proving to what a pitch enthusiasm may be excited by seclusion from the world, and how strongly the current

of natural feelings, when repressed in one direction, is likely to break out in others. * * *

I should have mentioned that the lady from whom these letters came is Superioress of the Presentation Convent, at Wexford, and that I had already been made acquainted with her enthusiasm on the subject of Music, by a short correspondence which I had with her about a year or two since. The following is her letter to me on the present occasion, written in a very feminine and lady-like hand: — “Dear Sir, — It is impossible to restrain the expression of joy and happiness your arrival at Bannow has excited. I feel that I would be deficient in all that is due to the great and gifted, and should reproach myself for ever with ingratitude, if I did not approach you (at least by letter) amongst the foremost of the countless numbers who pay their homage to your personal worth and matchless talents. Accept then, Dear Sir, the best and warmest welcome of my little community united with mine; for welcome, and a thousand times welcome, you truly are to this country. It is a singular pleasure to me, and I am proud to enthusiasm of the privilege which brings me a degree nearer to you, by being attached to Dublin and to Wexford by precisely the same ties. Would that I could acknowledge, as I wish, my sense of the lustre your birth has shed on both places. Permit me, then, to beseech you *not* to leave this country without coming to the convent. Oh! do not deprive *us* of the pleasure of seeing you, as from our peculiar situation it may never again be possible to us. I feel so selfish in your regard that I could wish you to come here before you go to any other place in Wexford. My acquaintance with your sister, and some of her most intimate circle, makes me feel towards you quite otherwise than a stranger, and I am presumptuously inclined to wish that I could supply, in their absence, the attentions of all. But I must owe all and every thing to your kind condescension, which shall be a source of everlasting happiness to me, and of gratitude to you. * * * Believe me, with all the respect and esteem of which I am capable, your admiring friend.”

28th. Either this morning or yesterday, I forget which, was taken by Boyse to a spot which he had fixed upon for the erection of a tower in commemoration of my visit to Bannow. Went through the ceremony of laying

the first stone, soon after which my excellent host and myself set off together in a chaise and four for Enniscorthy. To avoid the bustle of the inn, went to a private house which Boyse sometimes uses as a lodging. Received visits there from a few people; among others, the Mayor and a Mr. Cooper, an old friend, as it appeared, of our family; also a young musician, Mr. White (with whom I had once some correspondence), and the editors of the two liberal Wexford papers. I then set off to pay my visit to the fair writer of the foregoing letters; and a very fair and handsome person I found her, little more, I should think, than thirty years of age, and becoming her abbess's dress most secularly. Whether she expected to be complimented on her good looks, I know not; but I felt that it would be bad taste to do so, and, at all events, did not venture it. After showing me their small pretty chapel, the superioress led me to a new organ, which was soon to be put up there, and asked, as a favour, that I would play *one* short air upon it. If I could ever, at any time, bring myself to *volunteer* my voice, I should have done so on this occasion; and the thought crossed me that I *ought*. Indeed, if she had said but a word to that effect, I should most certainly have sung; but she asked me only to play, and I played the air, “Oh, all ye angels of the Lord!” which seemed abundantly to satisfy her, as her utmost wish appeared to be that I should have *touched* her organ. I then followed her to a small nice garden (for all was in miniature), where I found the gardener ready prepared with spade, &c., in order that I should plant with my own hands a *myrtle* there. “Oh, Cupid, Prince of Gods and men!” planting a myrtle in a convent garden! As soon as I had (awkwardly enough) deposited the plant in the hole prepared for it, the gardener, while filling in the earth, exclaimed, “This will not be called *myrtle* any longer, but the *Star of Airin!*” Where is the English gardener that would have been capable of such a flight? Dined with Boyse at his lodgings, and started in the mail for Enniscorthy at five or half-past five, having got rid of a crowd of old beggar women at the door by throwing a few shillings among them for a scramble, notwithstanding the pathetic entreaty of one poor old woman (which dwelt in my ears for some time), “Ah! *don't*

make a scramble of it." She felt, I suppose, that she had no chance in such a struggle.— Found the coach stuffed with the children of the proprietor of the mail, himself being outside, all come to escort my *bardship* a few miles out of town. Got to Enniscorthy about eight. Walked to take a peep at the memorable Vinegar Hill, and then to bed early.

29th. Started in the coach for Dublin about ten, and was lucky in my company; a very pretty young girl (who turned out to be a daughter of Alderman Lamprey's) and a musical aunt (a great singer of the "Melodies") being my companions. I was, of course, as great a Godsend to them as they were to me; and accordingly we made much of each other. A few other acquaintances dropped in, on the way, all knowing me, but I wholly in the dark about them. Got out for a short time to take a peep at the famous waterfall, Pol a Phuca, and arrived in Dublin between six and seven. Nell at the Mearas, whither I went and dined.

30th. A charming letter from my sweet admirable Bessy about the new accession to our means, which made me by turns laugh and weep, being, as I told her in my answer, almost the counterpart of Dr. Pangloss's

"I often wished that I had clear,
For life three hundred pounds a year."

I cannot refrain from copying a passage or two, here and there, from her letter, which she wrote before mine, conveying the intelligence of the grant, reached her.

"Sloperton, Tuesday night.

"My dearest Tom,—Can it *really* be true that you have a pension of 300*l.* a year? Mrs., Mr., two Misses, and young Longman were here to-day, and tell me it is really the case, and that they have seen it in two papers.— Should it turn out true, I know not how we can be thankful enough to those who gave it, or to a Higher Power. The Longmans were very kind and nice, and so was I, and I invited them *all five* to come at some future time. At present, I can think of nothing but 300*l.* a-year. and dear Russell jumps and claps his hands with joy. Tom is at Devizes. * * * The Pugets did not come to tea yesterday, Louisa being ill. To-day they sent me some beautiful flowers. If the story is true of the 300*l.* pray give dear Ellen twenty pounds, and *insist*

on her drinking five pounds worth of wine *yearly*, to be paid out of the 300*l.* a-year. I have been obliged, by the by, to get five pounds to send to —. * * * Three hundred a year, how delightful! But I have my fears that it is only a castle in the air. I am sure I shall dream of it; and so I will get to bed, that I may have this pleasure *at least*; for I expect the morning will throw down my castle."

"Wednesday morning.

"Is it true? I am in a fever of hope and anxiety, and feel very oddly. No one to talk to but sweet Buss, who says, "Now, Papa will not have to work so hard, and will be able to go out a little." * * *

"You say I am so 'nice and comical' about the money. Now you are much more so (leaving out the 'nice'), for you have forgotten to send the cheque you promised. But I can wait with patience, for no one teases me. Only I want to have a few little things ready to welcome you home, which I like to pay for. How you will ever enjoy this quiet every-day sort of stillness, after your late reception, I hardly know. I begin to want you very much, for though the boys are darlings, there is still * * * How I wish I had wings, for then I would be at Wexford as soon as you, and surprise your new friends. I am so glad you have seen the Gonnies; I know they are quite delighted at your attention. Mr. Bennett called the other day on my sons.

"N. B. If this good news be true, it will make a great difference in my *eating*. I shall then indulge in butter to potatoes. *Mind* you do not tell this piece of gluttony to *any* one."

September 2nd. A last sitting to —; he has had, indeed, but two before, and in all three I had a sculptor (—) working at me on the other side, chisel and pencil both labouring away. Having nothing in my round potato face but what they cannot catch,—*i. e.* mobility of character,—the consequence is, that a portrait of me can be only one or other of two very disagreeable things,—a *caput mortuum*, or a caricature.

3rd. Busy preparing for my flight, and poor little Nell sadly assisting. A last sitting to —, and various calls. Took leave of Cramp-ton, who made me the bearer of two beautiful tabinets to Bessy. Had an early dinner from

Arthur Hume at the Kildare Street Club, and started for Kingston in his carriage about four. A good many of Ellen's acquaintances (who were in the secret of my departure) assembled on the pier to bid me good-bye; among others, Miss —, the daughter of the lady who so gallantly sheltered Lord Edward in her house on the canal. Found there also young Emily Napier, who had come to see her brother Johnny embark. Told her who Miss — was, and introduced them to each other. Emily delighted to make the acquaintance, and happening to have two of Lord Edward's grandchildren with her (Lady Campbell's boys), brought them forward and presented them to her; on which Miss — (as I have heard since, for I had gone on board at the time,) burst into tears at the recollections which the likeness of one of the boys to Lord Edward had brought back. Hume having made no proper provision of berths, and the number of passengers being immense, I had every prospect of being doomed to the fore-part of the ship for the night, but a young gentleman (a friend of Meara's), who was on board, having very kindly insisted on my accepting his sofa in the best cabin, I got through the night very comfortably and without any sickness.

4th. Landed at Liverpool, the rain coming down very briskly. * * *

5th. * * * Walked afterwards with Hume and young Cooper, to show the former old Mayfield Cottage, where "Lalla Rookh" was written. Hume much interested as well as surprised to see the small, solitary, and now wretched-looking cottage where all that fine "orientalism" and "sentimentalism" were engendered. It has for some time fallen into low farmers' hands, and is now in a state of dirt and degradation; yet there, once, the luxurious Rogers passed a few days with me; there poor Stevenson composed one or two of his sweetest things; and there (still more extraordinary) I remember giving a dinner to Sir Henry Fitzherbert, the then High Sheriff of the County, and some other provincial grandees. Returned to our chaise, and proceeded to Alton Towers. The approach to the house by a winding avenue of, I believe, three miles in length, most striking and picturesque. Found a magnificently dressed porter at the entrance, who, throwing open

the gates, discovered a harper *en costume* seated within, and playing, in honour of my arrival, one of the "Irish Melodies." Lord Shrewsbury himself soon made his appearance, and, after a most kind and hearty welcome, conducted us to the ladies, Lady S., her daughter, and sister. After a little time, walked out with them through the gardens and pleasure-grounds, and, the weather having again become delicious, saw in perfection some of the principal features of this odd as well as beautiful place. Was introduced to my correspondent, Dr. Rock (Lord S.'s chaplain), who, I remember, commenced the first letter he wrote to me by saying, "All the world knows that you are acquainted with the *Captain* of my family, but this is the first time, I dare say, that the Doctor of the name has been introduced to your notice." No addition to the party at dinner, except a Mr. Jones, the Protestant vicar or curate of the place.

6th. Service this morning in the handsome chapel, most splendidly and touchingly performed, a fine organ, good and well taught voices, the decorations of the altar, of the priest, the attendant boys, all grand and tasteful. As usual, could not resist crying at the music, the female voice, which over-topped all the others, being most touching as well as clear and strong. An old Ashbourne acquaintance of mine, Mrs. Dewes (now Mrs. Granville), was seated beside me during prayers. Went out in the carriage with the ladies, a fat coachman on the box driving four-in-hand down those almost perpendicular hills; rather nervous work, but seeing my companions did not mind it, "kept never minding" too. Dinner as before, with Parson Jones, as before, also. Evening service in the chapel; the chanting very well done. Sung to them afterwards, and Lady Shrewsbury and her sister sung a song of mine, ("Oft in the stilly Night") as a duet.

7. Much pressed to prolong my stay, but had announced from the first that I had promised to pass this day with the Coopers, and then speed home as fast as possible. Found that I had two very flattering tasks to perform before my departure, one of which was to plant with my own hands in my Lady's garden, a sprig of ivy which had been plucked from Petrarch's tomb at Arqua, and the plant-

ing of which had been reserved for my visit hither; the other to choose from a large number of new kinds of dahlias one that was to bear my name. Showed me after breakfast some pieces of poetry, written by their newly married daughter, the young Princess of Sulmona, (married to the heir to the present Borghese, who will have, it is said, near 100,000*l.* a year), far beyond the usual standard of young ladies' poetry; also some letters from herself and her husband, full of love and happiness, and very prettily expressed. Lady S. having declared her intention to convey us, herself, to the Coopers, we set off after luncheon, and were deposited by her in grand style at my friend the honest cotton spinner's door, who himself received me on my alighting from the carriage. Passed a very cordial and heart-warming evening with them, talking of old times and old recollections, which to me was worth a thousand such pompous days as the two last.

10th. Off in a fly for dear Sloperton, where we arrived to breakfast, and found Bessy and the boys quite well and anxiously expecting me.

17th. Bessy being anxious for a little excursion from home, went to Bath with her and the boys to a grand show of dahlias, and from thence to the Napiers, at Freshford, where we dined and slept. Mrs. Napier showed me the sort of work she performs for Napier, which is to be sure most laborious as well as invaluable towards such a task as his. Besides copying out over and over (which I had known of before) all the successive sheets of his work, as he writes and corrects them (thus furnishing him with what are tantamount to so many proofs from the printer), she also reads over the various letters, in different languages, which he has to consult, making a *précis* of the substance of each, with dates, names, and all that is required to possess him with the subject. Such an assistant is beyond price. * * *

October 15th. To dinner at Scotts, to meet Luttrell, the Nugents, and the Macdonalds. Luttrell and Nugent had remarked, a day or two since, to me how much "The Times" had fallen off in its power of writing; how it twaddled, &c., &c. Macdonald, who is on the other side of politics, now said to me, "How wonderfully the fellows of 'The Times' write!

—there never was to be sure so powerful a paper." "Then you think," I said, "that it is far more ably written now than it used to be?" "Oh, much," he replied. Thus it is that people allow their judgment to be discoloured, if not wholly obscured, by their party prejudices. The fact is, that "The Times," being still conducted by the same men, shows equal power on their new side as on the other, their real opinions, whatever they may be, standing but little in the way of their good writing. * * *

24th. A visit from Bowles, bringing with him Mr. West, a young man who has been a pupil of the Academy of Music, and has set an oratorio of Bowles's, "The Ark." Played over for me one of the choruses, which I thought very good; the words being admirably adapted for musical effect. Bowles spoke of the delight it always gave him to come and see Bessy and me; we "met him with such cheerful faces." Received one of these days a copy of Manzoni's book "Sulla Morale Cattolica," sent to me from Italy by Madame Durazzo through the hands of Ponsonby. Mazzoni (like another less celebrated novelist Griffin, the author of the "Collegian;") has left off novel writing as a task unfit for a good Christian. Have seen two or three times Dr. Brabant, since his return from Germany. In speaking of the numbers of persons famous in England of whom little was known *out of* it, he said, "There is one name which was always sure, whenever I mentioned it, not only to be well known but to be hailed with eagerness and curiosity, and that is *Tom Moore*, as they all call you." Their having this familiar name so pat on their tongues, he attributed to the popularity among them of Lord Byron's lines, "Here's a health to thee, Tom Moore."

25th to 31st. Nothing much worth observing. Found the following fragment of some verses which I began, I believe more than a year since, when Louis Philippe was but on his way to the Grand Monarque tone which he is assuming now:—

PROGRESS OF REFORM.

The current sweeps on, and we're borne in its track,

Every beacon on shore is but glimps'd at, and gone;

The desponding look down, and the timid look back,

While Hope points to Liberty's star, and looks on!

Blest dream! oh, for once may it not be a dream;

For once in thus grasping at Liberty's wreath,

May we find not, like France, that though flowery it seem,
It is bristling with tyranny's thorns underneath.

November 7th. To Bowood, where I found, besides Lord John and his pretty little wife, Bobus, Smith, and Sneyd. Lord and Lady Kerry, too, arrived from town just as we were going to dinner. Bobus highly agreeable. Sung a good deal in the evening.

8th. Bobus gave a new and better reading of Jekyll's joke respecting the day the ceiling fell down, during dinner at Lansdowne House; Jekyll himself having escaped dining there by and engagement to meet the judges. "I had been asked," he said, "to *Ruat Cælum*, but dined instead with *Fiat Justitia*." Talking of Kean, I mentioned his having told me that he had eked out his means of living before he emerged into celebrity, by teaching dancing, fencing, *elocution*, and *boxing*. "Elocution and boxing! (repeated Bobus) a word and a blow." Prayers in the chapel at three. Guthrie too ill to preach. Two very beautiful things played by the organist, Combes, which I found, on asking him afterwards, were a *Dona nobis Pacem* of Mozart, and an air of Schroeder. The latter Lady Louisa promised to write out for me.

After prayers a long walk with Lord John, Lord Lansdowne, and Sneyd. Various subjects talked of, and all agreeably. The French language so much altered as to have completely changed its character; the simplicity and *naïveté* it had in the times of Montaigne, &c. all gone; no longer a language for poetry, but admirable for science and logical discussion from its terse clearness. The style of the French newspapers excellent, and their abstinence, almost universally, from all merely personal attacks and private slander, highly honourable to them; so unlike the character of the English press. In speaking of the simple force of old French writers, I quoted Montaigne's saying in reference to his own habit of walking about when he composed, "*Mes pensées quand je les assis, dorment*." Lord L. also mentioned a compound word used by Montaigne, as full of strength, "*Prime-sautier*;" but I question if the word was remembered by him correctly, and it must be, at all events, I think *Prime-sauteur*.*

At dinner the same party. A deputation, in the course of the day, to Lord John, from Bristol, bringing him the address that is to be presented to him.

9th. All very anxious I should stay to dinner to-day, but could not manage it, having to start with Bessy early in the morning for Bath. Lord John had offered to take me to Bristol, but it was now fixed he should pick me up on his way, at Bath. Walked with me part of the way home. Talking of Peel, on my saying that I liked him he said, "So do I," and mentioned how kind he had been on the subject of his marriage; not only alluding to it very cordially in one of his speeches, but coming up to him in the House, and shaking hands with him in a very friendly way, saying that he heartily congratulated him, having known Lady John some time, and having always thought her a very charming person; or words to that effect, for I forget the precise terms. Lord John added, as an odd thing, that O'Connell should have come up to him almost immediately after (the two extremes), and in the same hearty manner shaken hands with and congratulated him. Was half inclined to go on the whole way with me, but recollected that he could not well spare the time.

Found, on my return, that Bessy was engaged at the school-room, at Bromham, helping to distribute some clothing to the poor; so that it was lucky Lord John did not come on to see her. I have omitted to mention in the proper place, some correspondence which I have lately had with Meara of Dublin, on the subject of an extract from Willis the American's book, which had appeared in the "Quarterly," and the newspapers, professing to give an account of my conversation one day, at Lady Blessington's respecting O'Connell. The substance of what I wrote to Meara was, that my first impulse on seeing this extract was to take notice of it in a letter to some newspaper; but that on second thoughts, it appeared to me that such a course would do more harm than good, as I could not deny the opinions attributed to me respecting O'Connell to be substantially mine; namely, that in separating the privilege of abuse from the responsibility which gentlemen had always attached to it, he did what I must ever disapprove; and that however well deserved

* See Dict. de l'Académie Française, *Prime-sautier*, adj. (Esprit,) qui saisit et rend les idées avec promptitude, sans passer par les idées intermédiaires.

by his services to Ireland was the tribute paid to him by the nation, and however honourable to the hearty people who bestowed it, I must ever think that the "annual *quête* for its collection threw an air of mendicity round it, not very creditable." All I could conscientiously contradict in Willis's statement, was the coarseness of the language attributed to me, and which it was neither my nature or habit to use. I doubted much whether under any degree of excitement I could bring myself to call a man "a coward" even to his face, but certainly never *behind his back* could I be capable of so styling him. I added that Meara might make whatever use he pleased of my letter. In reply to this, he owned that he could not well show what I had written, on account of the manner in which I had spoken of what the O'Connell family felt sore upon, namely, the tribute; and it is amusing enough that, even of this part, he is willing to leave what I think contains the whole sting, and proposes instead of the following passage, "the annual *quête* for its collection throws an air of mendicity around it not very creditable," to read "the annual *quête* for its collection throws an air of mendicity around it, which must render it less agreeable to Mr. O'Connell's family." Poor Meara! he would leave the statement in full force, and only omit the obvious conclusion from it. Wrote to him to say, that the whole matter had better rest as it was; that the Irish newspapers had, with great delicacy, refrained from stirring the subject, and we could not do better than follow their example. The above is all from memory, but I believe substantially correct.

10th. Started with Bessy for Bath, in a fly. After shopping a little with her, called at the York House, and found Lord John had arrived. Took Bessy to call upon him, and shortly after he and I set off for Bristol, with a turn-out of four greys. As we approached Bristol, met a small crowd of fellows who wanted to take the horses from the carriage, but we bid the post-boys drive on and escaped them. A good number of people collected round the door of the Gloucester when we stopped, and some of them, I found, took me for the great little secretary. "No, that's him with the white hat." Found all bustle within; accompanied Lord John to the private room prepared for him, and had my share

of all the presentations that were made of strangers, dinner-officers, &c. &c. Were rather anxious as to Lord Ebrington, who had not yet arrived. While Lord John was gone to dress, the Bishop came to pay his respects, *not* to dine. Had some conversation with him, as also with the rector (who came on the same errand), Mr. Taylor, who announced himself to me as the husband of Curran's daughter, and said that the last time he and I met was at Curran's funeral. Lord Ebrington at length arrived. Could collect from the Bristolians I talked with, that nothing could well be more bitter and *internecine* than the state of feeling between the two parties among them at present. No bells were suffered to be rung during this day, and one hot churchman had got the bell ropes of two steeples in his house to prevent the possibility of a single ring for the Radicals. Placed at dinner within a few of Lord John, and next to the principal getter-up of the feast, a very gentleman-like and sensible person, Mr. Saunders; the same who had come in his own carriage to Bowood on Sunday with the address. Lord John's first speech lasted an hour and a half; a good deal of the earlier portion of it languid and ineffective; but he improved considerably as he went on, and his contrast between the policy of the Duke of Wellington and that of the Whigs, in their respective modes of dealing with Ireland, was as happily expressed as it was true and convincing. "The Duke of Wellington stood out against the appeals of argument, but yielded to threats; we resisted intimidation and violence (*e. g.* the Coercion Bill), but yielded to argument." I give this, not as his exact words, but as the substance of his reasoning.

Had been told that my health was to be given after that of Lord Mulgrave, but from the length of time the speeches occupied, there appeared every chance of my getting off altogether. Lord John having beckoned me to come to him, said that his own wish was to retire immediately after the health of Lord Mulgrave, but that in that case the people would be disappointed of my speech, which they would not like, and asked whether I could not rise and speak to the toast of Lord Mulgrave. I begged of him not to mind me at all; that I should be most ready and wil-

ling to start with him the minute after Lord M.'s health was given, and right glad to escape from the operation altogether. This was quite true at the moment, but it was as well that matters took a different turn, as both myself and my speech were most uproariously cheered, and I had an opportunity of performing a feat which requires some little courage; namely, that of lauding the English aristocracy before an assembly of Radicals, and that at a moment when the popular current runs all the other way. They took it, I must say, with most exemplary good humour, and I was prepared with a tolerably strong infusion of radicalism at the end, which washed down the whole dose comfortably. While we were out on the landing, waiting for our great coats, &c., there were some ladies (who had been in a small music gallery during the speaking), who rather put my Irish modesty to the blush (and I suspect they were Irish themselves) by their *empressment* about me.

Got away in the midst of shouts and crackers, our four greys standing the hullabaloo most marvellously, though a gig and horse in a fugitive state but just barely cleared us as we departed. Some talk on the way about reporting speeches, the horror of which now arose before my eyes; that dreadful machine, the *mangle*, being already no doubt at work upon our orations. Lord John mentioned his having once got into a scrape with some French friends of his from having, in a report of one of his speeches, been represented as calling the Bourbons "an imbecile and bigoted race;" no such words having been uttered by him. Left me at the York House, Bath, and went on to Bowood, where he was not likely to arrive till between three and four. Before I went to bed, wrote a note to Bristol to my new friend, Mr. Saunders, to beg he would prevent the editor of the morrow's paper from inserting any report of my speech till I should be able to furnish a correct one myself. Got to bed about two o'clock.

11th. Have not, I believe, before mentioned that both Lord John and myself had been invited, some weeks since, to attend a great Radical dinner, to be given this day at Bath, to Hume and Roebuck. My answer, declining the honour, had not been sufficiently de-

cisive, of which I now felt the inconvenience. While I was at breakfast, a gentleman at another table, addressing me, expressed a hope that I meant to go to the dinner, adding, "You will meet a humbler class of persons than you did yesterday, but I expect it will be a very good meeting." This turned out to be Fearon, the writer of "*Travels in America*." He had been one of the company at the dinner yesterday, and we had some little talk about the proceedings. On my remarking how well they took my praise of the nobility, he said, "They were disposed to take every thing well, but I myself was one who did not go along with you in that praise." I assured him that I had spoken most sincerely what I felt, and what I had always experienced; in reply to which, he said, that he had not the slightest doubt of this, nor could he himself pretend to speak from any experience on the subject. In alluding to my American authority in favour of the nobility, he said that he did not attach much importance to that, because (and in this I believe he was right) the Americans in general are the greatest aristocrats in the world. On my expressing the pleasure I felt at the Americans having so much forgiven my *escapades d'écolier* against them, he intimated that they had by no means forgiven me as much as I supposed; and mentioned some general officer he had met with in that country who quoted whole passages of mine with the most bitter resentment. "You are not likely," he said, "to hear all the truth on this subject yourself, because I need not tell you that persons placed in your position are approached with—" "Yes," I said, interrupting him with a laugh, "there is something of an aristocracy in that case also." "Exactly!" he replied, and so we parted. I should not be surprised, however, if my friend of ten minutes remembered and reported this last sally of mine as a strong instance of literary coxcombry and conceit.

Went to Mrs. Prowse's, where Bessy was staying, and drew up as correct a report of my speech as I could manage. Took it to Carrington's, whose paper is to be published to-morrow (a Tory paper), and found him most kind and obliging. Promised to let me have slips of it in the evening to send to town. On my return to the York House, found there

had been a deputation from the dinner people to wait upon me, requesting an answer as to my intention of dining with them. Despatched off a note to their chairman expressing my regret. Dined between four and five with Bessy, at the Prowses, where she was lodged. Received the proofs of the speech after dinner, but unluckily did not get them to the post office in time for the London Mail; so that, in that respect, all my trouble had been thrown away. Slept at the York House.

26th. To Lacock, Bessy and I, the pony carriage having been sent for her, and I walked. Nobody but Lady Valletort, whom it was a great delight to me to see again. Evening agreeable. A good deal of talk with Talbot on the affinity traceable between the Celtic language and the Latin and Greek. Thus in Irish, a man (*Fir*) Tir; a country (*terra*), and from thence Tíree, the land belonging to Y or Iona. I mentioned Buachaill, a cowherd, from *Bovkolos* (which I found remarked by McCulloch in his "Western Highlands;") and this affinity, as Talbot said, was found also in *bo* the Gaelic and Irish for cow. *Fan*, a chapel, is another instance, *fanum*. He pointed out some curious mistakes in German translation made by the reviewer of Meyer's Voyage, in the "Quarterly:" — "It is well known" (the reviewer makes Meyer say) "that the Chinese drink their tea without either sugar, milk, or rum:" and then, in a note, the critic facetiously asks, "Who *do* take rum in their tea? not, surely, the Germans." The fact being, all the while, that Dr. Meyer's words are, "The Chinese take neither milk nor *rahm* (i. e. *cream*) in their tea."

December 3rd and 4th. Wrote to Lady Holland, at Mrs. Shelley's request, to ask for access to the Spanish books in the Holland House library, Mrs. S. being employed on Spanish biography for Lardner, and books on the subject being very rare in London. A long letter from Lady H., explaining why Lord H. could not infringe the rule he had laid down on this subject. This I had prepared Mrs. S. for: and, indeed, there would be no end to applications from authors, if he were once to make a precedent of lending out his books. Lady H., in the course of her letter, says, very courteously, "I hope Mrs. Moore is well; she must have forgotten me, though I never shall her lovely face."

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9th. * * * Company at Crawford's; Mr. Ellis and his son, and one or two others whom I did not know. In talking of Carey's translation of Dante, I happened to say that I had once thought it impossible such a *tour de force* as the translation of Dante could ever be performed better than it had been done by Carey; but that since then, there had appeared a translation in rhyme, by some one whose name I had now forgot, and which, as far as I could judge from the little I had seen of it, far exceeded even Carey's. On my saying this, a gentleman who sat next to me observed, "My son has attempted to translate some parts of Dante, but how far he has succeeded I do not know." "May I ask his name?" said I. "Wright," he answered. "The very man!" I exclaimed, to the no small pleasure of the modest father, and the amusement of the company.

By the by, in reference to Luttrell's scepticism on the subject of Irish antiquities (that sort of *scepticism* based on *ignorance*, which is but too common among your doubters), I remember a parallel case afforded by himself, in the course of a conversation which took place at Bowood last year. Sydney Smith and I were talking together of Asser, the Author of Alfred's Life, and I had remarked how lucky Alfred was in having such a contemporary to record his actions; when Luttrell exclaimed, "Alfred! there surely never was any such man as Alfred." The conversation proceeded no further; but, to do him justice, I think he must, at the moment, have confounded Alfred with *Arthur*, concerning whose reality there is some well-founded doubt. Slept at Crawford's. * * *

18th. To Bowood to dinner. Company the Joys, Mrs. Brystock and daughter, the Bowleses, &c. Made Bessy's excuses to Mrs. Joy for to-morrow, it having been arranged that we should all return to Hartham with them. Among his multifarious quotations, Joy brought out one from Shakspeare, which struck both Lord Lansdowne and myself from the force and pregnancy of its meaning:—

"Now whether it be
Bestial oblivion, or some craven scruple,
Of thinking too precisely on the event,—
A thought which, quarter'd, hath but one part wisdom,
And ever three parts coward.*

* Hamlet, act iv. sc. 4.

On my remarking that if ever mortal man could be said to be *inspired*, it was Shakspeare; and that he alone of all writers, seemed to have the power of transmigrating, as it were, into every other class and condition of men, and thinking and speaking as they would do under every possible change of feeling and circumstances, Lord Lansdowne expressed himself delighted to hear me speak thus, as he had been under the impression that I was inclined to underrate Shakspeare; and recollected well some friend of mine saying to him, "How odd it is that Moore should think so slightly of Shakspeare!" This most flagrant misrepresentation of my opinions must have arisen, I think (as I now told him), from some confusion between me and Byron, who *did* affect, very unworthily of himself, to make light of Shakspeare: and, on one occasion, I recollect, said to me, "Well, after all, Tom, don't you think Shakspeare was somewhat of a *humbug*?"

26th. To Bowood; party Lord and Lady Minto and two daughters.

27th. A good deal of conversation at and after breakfast. Speaking of Disraeli "the Younger's" view of the political character of Whigs and Tories, in his late pamphlets, Lord Lansdowne remarked, that there was a good deal of truth in what he said, as to the Tories having taken a more democratic line, in general, than the Whigs; their political position, since the Revolution, having led them to court the alliance of the people against the aristocracy. Hence (as I suggested) the popular view they took of the subjects of a standing army, the Debt, septennial parliaments, &c. I mentioned the laugh lately raised among a party of Burdett's constituents, when the deputation they appointed to wait on him reported his having said to them, that "he had *always* been a Tory." This, however, is perfectly true. Burdett has said the same thing to me more than once:—"I am a Tory of the school of Sir William Wyndham." Mentioned having heard Hobhouse say, that Burdett was "the best constitutional lawyer in England." Some little discussion as to what is precisely meant by "a constitutional lawyer;" and the definitions given of the term both by Lord Lansdowne and Lord Minto, showed, as I observed, that it is but another name for a good historian; implying a person well ac-

quainted with all the precedents to be found in history illustrative of the forms, usages, and spirit of the constitution.

This led to the question of the Regency in 1789, as one depending on constitutional law; and I suggested that the part taken on that question respectively by Pitt and by Fox, was another instance of what we had just been talking of,—namely, the *popular* side being that of the Tories, and the high and royal that of the Whigs. Pitt's own memorable exclamation, while Fox was stating his opinions—"I'll unwhig the gentleman for the rest of his life," showed that such was his view of their relative position. In remarking how quietly the same question was suffered to pass over in the year 1811, Lord Lansdowne said, that at the former period, it was known the Regent would be with the Whigs, while, at the latter crisis, each party had hopes of him. While conversing on the subject of constitutional precedents, Lord Minto said, "There is now an end to that sort of study; we shall have no further references to the past; it will be left (turning to me) to your friends at Iona." I had, in the course of the morning, mentioned my having been lately made an honorary member of the Antiquarian Society of Iona. This was shrewdly and truly said.

Conversation about precedence in society; during which I remarked how much more agreeable and (as far as society was concerned) more sensible, was the old French plan of considering all persons at a dinner-table equal, and letting them take their seats as choice or chance might direct. In another point of view, I confessed this freedom was dearly purchased; as it was their possession of real and distinct privileges, secured to them by law, that rendered the nobility so little *exigeants* as to distinctions of mere courtesy. In England, where the boundary between the noble and the gentleman is little more than conventional and ideal,—where it exists but in observance,—it is of course more strictly observed. Lord L. was still of opinion that such distinctions were, in themselves, a convenience in society, as saving all that trouble of consideration and selection, which a perfect equality of claim in the guests must produce. He added, laughingly, that, for himself, he spoke most disinterestedly, as he was himself daily the victim of his right to precedency; particularly

since he became President of the Council ; seldom coming in contact with anything but a dowager or an archbishop.

Got some walking for an hour in the grounds. Lord L. had mentioned to me that Bowles was to preach to-day on the cartoon of the "Draught of Fishes" (he has been going through a series of sermons on the cartoons in the chapel), and hoped I would attend. He told Bowles (as he mentioned to me afterwards) that I meant to attend his sermon, and Bowles said, "I am very glad of it ; I do not think there is anything in my sermon that can annoy him. Do you think, my lord, he is likely to be offended at what I may say about St. Peter?" Poor dear Bowles ! he is the cause of many a good-natured laugh at Bowood. After the sermon (in which he had disposed in the usual way of the supremacy of Peter, the Rock, &c.), he came up to me, to the great amusement of the lookers-on, and was proceeding with, "I hope there was nothing in my sermon that"—when I interrupted him, laughingly, and said, 'My dear Bowles, I am by no means so *touchy* about St. Peter as you seem to suppose."

Same party at dinner. In the course of the evening Lord Lansdowne and I got upon a topic which we have more than once discussed before, as he himself described it to Ord, who joined us, "as a theory of Moore's with which I cannot agree ;"—viz., Canning and Peel, or such men as Canning and Peel, mere commoners by birth, could never have attained the same high station among the Whig party that these two *roturiers* were allowed to reach among the Tories ; the exclusive spirit of aristocracy being so much more strong in the former party than in the latter. Ord, likewise, disagreed with my view, and there are certainly no facts to argue from on either side of the question. The failure of Sheridan and Burke in attaining high station among the Whigs being sufficiently accounted for by the unfitness of one and the impracticability of the other, for office, without any reference to their birth ; while the only instance Lord Lansdowne could cite, in which the Whigs took up a mere man of the people—that of Horner,—was left incomplete, and, indeed, little more than in embryo, by his early death. Though Lord L. made so much of this conjectural and contingent elevation of Horner, as to ask Ord, "Have

you any doubt but that Horner would have risen to the highest posts in the State?" But what numbers of "promising young statesmen" have broken down half way !

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1836.

JANUARY 24th, 25th. Barbara Godfrey (the niece of one of the best and dearest friends I have ever had, Lady Donegal,) being about to be married, and I trust happily, Bessy, with her usual generosity, sent her, as a nuptial gift, the beautiful tabinet gown Philip Crampton made her a present of when I was last in Ireland. A note from Mary Godfrey to Bessy, acknowledging this gift, says as follows :—"Lest you should think that your magnificent present for Barbara did not arrive safe, I hasten to acknowledge it, and to scold you, my dear friend, for having deprived yourself of so beautiful a gown, when you had already sent her so pretty a *souvenir* by Mr. Corry, and had already gratified her by your kind and affectionate remembrance of her upon this eventful moment of her life. Moore's pencil and kind words added to this would have been delightful to her feelings ; and why, dear Bessy, would you do so much more than you ought to have done ? Why did you not keep your own handsome gown for your own handsome self ? The fact is, you and Moore ought to have just ten thousand a year, and how two such noble souls can get on in this world without it, I can't conceive ! My sister will take these beautiful things to her," &c. &c. * * *

February 23rd. Set off in a fly for Devizes, having taken my place in the "White Hart" for Town nearly an hour before my time. * * * Drove, on my arrival, to Edward Moore's, according to promise, and found him and More O'Ferral just seated down to dinner. Dined very comfortably with them ; off to Paternoster Row, where I took up my abode till I should find other lodgings, and was most hospitably received by partners Rees and Brown.

24th. After breakfast to Brookes's ; found there a note from Lord Essex (whom I had written to before I came up) asking me to dine with him to-day. Called upon Rogers, and stayed some time with him : most agreeable and cordial. Told me some amusing

things, one of which was Theodore Hook's saying to some man with whom a bibliopolist dined the other day, and got extremely drunk, "Why, you appear to me to have emptied your *wine*-seller into your *book*-seller." * *

25th. Part of to-day's proceedings have been included by mistake in those of yesterday, though, God knows, quite sufficient to the day is the bustle thereof. Went to the British Museum, and read for some time. Dined at Brookes's; an old acquaintance of mine, Bob Smith, (Lord Carrington's son) dining at a table near me, and had a good deal of conversation with him. Dressed and went first to the play to join the Byngs and Lord Russell in the Duke of Bedford's box, and then to the Hollands, where I found, among others, Palgrave and Tytler (the Scotch historian). Introduced to Palgrave, who thanked me for the flattering terms in which I had mentioned him in my History. Suggested my introducing an ancient map (such as was done by Crofton Croker for the Irish State Papers) showing the countries of the old Irish Septs, as also a map of the Pale as far as it could be ascertained. In telling him how much I had profited by his book, in my first volume, I added that I should have to draw further upon it, in touching on Danish matters, and he said that any assistance he could himself personally give me on those points I might readily command. Had some talk also with Tytler, who spoke of the expedition of Bruce to Ireland, as a future part of my task peculiarly interesting. Asked by my Lady to dine on Tuesday next, but told her I feared I had some dinner engagement for that day which I could not now immediately recollect. Remembered afterwards that it was to Sir Benjamin Brodie, a dinner concocted for me by Hume. In the course of this day I was in no less than four omnibuses and three hackney coaches.

27th. To British Museum in the morning. Dined with Bryan: company, Shiel, Wyse, and a Mr. Finlay. Talked of an infinity of subjects, Shiel giving some good mimics of Dan, and having evidently no vast respect for his great Coryphée. Was astonished on removing to the drawing room to find we had sat so late, it being then within twenty minutes of one o'clock; quite a *séance* of the olden times. Received a letter this morning

sent up to me from Sloperston, franked by O'Connell, and coming from a Mr. Quinn, enclosing me a prospectus of a new Quarterly Review, about to be set up, under the announced auspices of Dr. Wiseman, O'Connell, and Mr. Quin himself. In the course of this letter is the following passage: "On my mentioning in the hearing of O'Connell that I was about to write to you, he said, 'Oh, let me frank the letter to Moore;'" after stating which, Mr. Quin proceeds to add (evidently not without O'Connell's sanction) what pleasure it would give him to see two such men shake hands and be friends, &c. &c. This opening, thus made by O'Connell himself, being all that I wanted (he being the offended party), I was resolved to lose no time in availing myself of it. In the course of the morning was called out of Brookes's by a visit from Mr. Quin himself, who had just heard I was in town, and had some conversation with him; but his anxiety being all centered upon the one point of inducing me to become a co-operator in the projected Review, I had no opportunity, nor indeed, ever once thought of alluding, during our conversation, to what he had said on the subject of O'Connell. This, though it turned out afterwards to be fortunate, I regretted at the time, as capable of being interpreted into an ungracious backwardness on my part.

28th. Breakfasted at home with my very kind host and hostess, and went afterwards to the Warwick Street Chapel, where I was, as usual, much affected by the music, though not a very striking mass. Found from Tom Cooke (who said if he had known I was coming that he would have had something better for me) that it was the composition of the organist. Went to Rogers's, and while there, Lord and Lady Seymour called, she looking in great beauty. * * *

Being anxious to settle as soon as I could my affair with O'Connell, and being convinced, on a little consideration, that to employ any intermediate person would do much more harm than good (such persons being in general more likely to make difficulties than to remove them), I resolved, now that the advance had been so far made by O'Connell, to do the rest without further machinery myself. Knowing that he, in general, passed a good part of the day at Brookes's, on a Sun-

day, I proceeded thither after returning from Shee's, and there found him at a table reading a newspaper! Walking direct up to him with my hand held out, I said, smiling, "That frank proceeding of yours has settled every thing." He instantly rose, looking rather embarrassed and nervous; when I said in the same cheerful tone, "You remember the frank?" "Yes," he answered (having now recovered his self-possession and shaking my hand cordially), "I *do* remember, and you have answered it exactly as I expected you would." This is *verbatim* what passed.

Dined at Lansdowne House: large party: Lords Melbourne, Carlisle, Morpeth, the Hollands, Mintos, Langdales, &c. Got seated between Lord Minto and Lord Langdale, and found my position very agreeable. Some talk with my noble neighbours about Napier, during which a question arose as to the justifiableness of his using the private diary of Sir John Moore, which James Moore had confided to him for the purpose of his military history; using this same document against James Moore himself in the bitter article which he (Napier) wrote in the "Edinburgh."

After giving my opinion on the subject to Lord Minto, found, on putting the case to Lord Langdale, that his view of it exactly coincided with my own; namely, that this document having been given to Napier by James Moore for the express purpose of defending his brother, Sir John Moore's character, Napier was not diverting it from this purpose, nor in any degree betraying his trust, by employing it against the very worst attack of all that had been made upon Sir John, — that which came under the imposing authority of his own brother.

29th. Breakfasted with Rogers to meet Taylor and young Villiers. Conversation on various topics. Referred to Shakspeare's Sonnets for one that Taylor had, on some former occasion, praised to Rogers. It begins, "That time of year thou may'st in me behold," (Sonnet 73.) and is full of sweet thought and language throughout. The first four lines are exquisite: —

"That time of year though may'st in me behold,
When yellow leaves, or none, or few, do hang
Upon those boughs which shake against the cold,
Bare, ruined choirs where late the sweet birds sang."

A good deal of conversation about Southey, who is a great friend of Taylor's. The immense correspondence of Southey, who, like myself, makes a point of answering all who write to him; but, unlike me, devotes the better and fresher part of his day (the morning) to this task; whereas I minute myself, during the last hour before dinner, to despatch as many of my answers to correspondents as I can scribble through in that interval. Dined at Miss Rogers's; company, Rogers, Hallam, and the Smiths (Sydney and Bobus). Some talk, after dinner, with Hallam, about my "History," which he seemed to think very favourably of. Begged of him to mention anything that had occurred to him in it wrong or incorrect, as I should have the power of remedying all such errors in a preface to the second volume; but he said that no such objections occurred to him. Was glad to hear that he himself is about to bring out a new work, embracing the Literary History of a most important period. Came away with Rogers and Sydney, and left them at the Hollands' door, not feeling well enough to go in.

March 1st. Went to take my chance of finding Lord John before breakfast: did so, and breakfasted with him. His late conduct and speech on the subject of the Orangemen has gained him great glory; and "statesman-like" is the epithet in every one's mouth in speaking of him. I do most thoroughly rejoice in his success. Found him very well, and, as usual, most kind.

Found Sir Ronald Ferguson at Brookes's, and spoke to him about Tom; but he told me that already his hands were full, and that, at this very moment, there were no less than five or six recommendations of his on the list, which he was engaged in pressing on the attention of the Commander-in-Chief. He added, however, that if I would get Lord Lansdowne to make an application to Lord Hill, he himself would most willingly back it with his interest. Went to the British Museum, and poked through folios for an hour or two.

Dined at Sir B. Brodie's, Hume having called for me between six and seven: company, Rogers, Chantrey, and his wife, Wilkie, Sir H. Ellis of the British Museum, and one or two more. Reminded by Chantrey of my having asked him when we were on our way from

Italy together, "which of all the great painters, whose works he had there seen, he would most wish to have been," and his answering "Tintoretto." He himself, as he now mentioned, put the same question to Turner, after his return from Italy (without at all communicating what had passed between him and me), and his answer, curiously enough, was exactly the same. Chantrey, in relating the above, seemed to think that, if he himself could have given the matter a little more consideration at the time when I put the question to him, his answer would have been "Titian." Told me of a group he had just executed for the King, of Mrs. Jordan and some of their children, and described the strong feeling which the King evinced when he first proposed the task to him, saying that it had been for many years his intention to have such a memorial executed as soon as he should be in a situation to afford it. Much pressed to sing in the evening, and twice sat down to the pianoforte to try for a voice; but the wretched weather and night air have kept me so constantly coughing, wheezing, and sneezing, that all singing is out of the question. Meant to have gone afterwards to the Lockharts, where I had been asked to dine, to meet Lord and Lady Ashburton; but the night was so dreadful, and the same work about singing was so sure to occur there, that I gave it up, and went home. Forgot to mention that I had, in the morning, called upon the Ashburtons, and sat with him and her for some time. Nothing could be more kind than they were; and Baring himself, as I have always found him, most agreeable. In two or three anecdotes which he told, he made allusions, amusingly enough, to the change of his politics: "It was in the days of my Whiggism;" "At that time, you know, I was a flaming Whig, &c."

2nd. Having met Wilkinson (the author of the late work on Egypt), one of these mornings, felt a great wish to visit the Panorama of Thebes under his guidance; and the Talbots being also anxious for the same, fixed this morning for the purpose. Went together (Dr. Hume also being of the party) after breakfast. Nothing could be more intelligent, satisfactory, and at the same time unaffected, than his manner of explaining to us all the localities, antiquities, &c., of the place, which he

has every reason to be familiar with, having remained no less than twelve years in Egypt.

3rd. Breakfasted at home; then to the Longmans, and from thence to the British Museum, where I made some further extracts and memorandums. Dined at home with the Talbots: company, the two Strangways, and a Mrs., Miss, and young Mr. Chambers; and from thence most of us went to an assembly at Lansdowne House. Saw a number of old town acquaintances that I have not met for ages; among the rest, Lady Harrowby, who was civil and kind, and expressed regret on finding that I was so soon about to leave town. The beauties of the night were Miss Erskine, just come from abroad with her father Lord Erskine, and Sir Hussey Vivian's young wife, who is, I believe, Irish.

4th. * * * I have omitted, by the by, among my scattered records of this visit to town, to give some account of the arrangement I have at last entered into with Easthope, for occasional contributions of squibs to "The Chronicle." Nothing could be more prompt and liberal than his whole proceedings on the subject; and, as I had more than once expressed to him my satisfaction at the terms on which I had contributed to "The Times," he requested that the same might be the nature of my connection with "The Chronicle." Accordingly I commenced by receiving an advance from him of 100*l.*, a day or two after my arrival in town. On my return home, found a letter from Lady Macdonald, saying it was the opinion of the General, that an application from *myself* at the Horse Guards would have far more weight than any other; that no time should be lost in making it, and that he himself would be very happy to accompany me to the office at the Horse Guards for the purpose. Her note contained also an invitation to dinner to-morrow, to meet Lord Morpeth and some others — but that dinner at Hampstead! Dined with Byng: company, Lord De Ros, Charles Greville, young Cowper (Lord Cowper's son), and Stanley, the Under Secretary of the Treasury. The man I most wanted to meet, Fonblanque, not there, being ill. In his note, which Byng showed me, he expressed much regret, adding, "that it was always a treat to him to meet Mr. Moore." Charles Greville, however, (whom I always like to meet) consoled me a little for

the loss. Stayed talking, with but few *memorabilia*, till near half-past eleven, when (forgetting that I had promised Lady Minto to come to her ball) I walked home.

5th. Went to breakfast with Lord John. As he sat at the table, there lay his official papers on one side, and a long bill of fare (for a cabinet dinner he gives to-morrow) on the other. Lady John not well enough to see me; but after breakfast he took me up to look at the new baby asleep, that I might report to Mrs. Moore (whom he knew to be a great baby-fancier) on my return. * * *

6th. Dined at Miss Rogers's, R., and I, and Sydney going there together: company, the Hollands, the Langdales, Lady Davy, Surgeon Travers, and Rogers's nephew. Sydney highly amusing in the evening. His description of the *dining* process, by which people in London extract all they can from new literary lions, was irresistibly comic. "Here's a new man of genius arrived; put on the stew-pan; fry away; we'll soon get it all out of him." On this and one or two other topics, he set off in a style that kept us all in roars of laughter.

8th. Off in the Regulator for home.

29th. Went to dine with the Kerrys: only themselves, Lady Louisa having gone to visit the Ricardos. A very nice quiet evening. Kerry seriously employed with his "Life of Sir W. Petty;" and likely, I think, to perform his task creditably, as he aims at little more than being editor of such materials on the subject as he has been able to collect. Showed me a characteristic passage in one of Sir William's letters, written in answer to somebody who was desirous of obtaining a peerage, and had applied to Petty for advice or aid: "I would rather be a copper farthing of intrinsic value, than a brass half-crown."

31st. Sent off some verses to "The Chronicle," "Erasmus on Earth to Cicero in the Shades," which I thought not bad, though, as usual, not having the most distant idea as to what others may think of them. A few lines, which I omitted, as being too serious for the general cast of this trifle, are perhaps worthy of being preserved here. In speaking of the supposed Idols in St. Paul's, I went on thus:—

But 'tis really too sad;—in this once pious land,
Where the form of some saint, touched by Painting's slow
hand,

Into grace more than human and looks half divine,
Was all the heart look'd for on Piety's shrine,

To exalt its own picturings high o'er this sphere
To a world where the clouds from around us will clear,
And such bright things shall be what they now but
appear.*

* * * * *

April 11th. A visit from Bowles, who is in a most amusing rage against the bishops, on account of the transfer into their hands by the new Church Reform of the preferment and patronage hitherto vested in the Dean and Chapter. No Radical could be much more furious on the subject than this comical Canon, in his own odd way. On driving off from the door, he exclaimed to Mrs. Moore, "I say, down with the bishops." * * *

13th. Breakfasted at Brookes's, and from thence to Rogers's, where I found (as one is sure *always* to find the best things going) Lord Jeffrey, whom I had not seen for a length of time, and was most glad to find so well and prosperous, with the honours of his new judgeship fresh about him. They say there cannot be a better or more satisfactory judge, which I rejoice at exceedingly, not only for his sake, but as an answer to your dull prosemen who conceit that none but themselves are fit for grave occupations, and look down upon men of lively fancy as little better than (what the lawyers used to call actors) "diverting vagabonds." Jeffrey's wife and daughter were also of the party, as well as old Whishaw, who mentioned an amusing instance of Dr. Parr's stilted phraseology. In addressing a well-known lawyer (whose name I now forget), after some great forensic display he had made, Parr said, "Sir, you are incapable of doing justice to your own argument; you weaken it by diffusion and perplex it by reiteration." Jeffrey, in allusion to my healthy looks, said I was the only "vernal thing" he had yet seen. Went down to the Charter House, and saw Tom, who was hard at work for his examination. In order to encourage him, mentioned how kindly Saunders had spoken of him, and how pleased he was with his late way of going on. Went for a short time to the British Museum. Dined at Brookes's, and from thence to Drury Lane to see the Jewess, my only chance of seeing anything before I plunged into engagements.

14th. * * * Dinner with Rogers, none but ourselves. Opera, the *Gazza Ladra*, per-

* Wants correcting and condensing.

feet in every way; with four such singers as Grisi, Lablache, Tamburini, and Rubini all doing their best, it could not be otherwise. By the omission of the part of Pippo the piece was in some degree *estropié*, but altogether the effect was delicious. Very pretty dancing afterwards by Grisi's sister, her first appearance. Called in the course of to-day at Lansdowne House, and saw Lady L., whose look and manner, in speaking of poor Lady Louisa, (who daily, I fear, gets worse) affected me so much that I hurried away lest she should see how deeply I felt it; another minute, and I should have burst out a-crying.

15th. Went with Hume to be introduced to his friend Marshall at the Horse Guards. Told him, of course, about Tom and the successful result of his late application to his studies, which pleased him very much. Called for a short time at the Mereweathers. Had left word at Bryant's, in passing, that I would dine with him to-day. Off to the Charter House, to learn how Tom's examination had gone on. Saw the dear fellow himself, and found, to my great delight, that he had succeeded in getting the Exhibition (contrary evidently to Saunders's expectation), and with great credit and praise from the examiners. Saw Saunders afterwards, who confirmed all this to me, and said that Tom's papers were very good indeed.

After my return from the Charter House, met Lord Grey in Pall Mall. Had seen him a day or two before, immediately after his arrival in town, and was passing him without perceiving who it was, when he of himself stopped and took my hand very cordially. I now begged of him to tell me at what hour of the day I should be most likely to find Lady Grey at home, and he told me at two o'clock, any day, and added that she would be most happy to see me. After parting with him, it occurred to me that I ought to have mentioned Tom's success to him, and I accordingly ran back after him for the purpose; as his kindness, I said, had been the means of putting Tom in the Charter House, it was right he should know that his patronage had not been thrown away. I then told him briefly the particulars, at which he seemed much gratified and congratulated me with much warmth. On my adding that I was just about to pack off my boy, with all his honours fresh about him, to his happy Mamma, I could see that tears

almost came into his eyes, as he cordially shook my hand. Nothing, indeed, could be more amiable than his whole manner.

Called at the Hollands, and found Lord Holland writing letters; from which, however, he turned away with his usual good humour, and conversed for some time as disengaged as if he had nothing whatever to do; though I found afterwards that one of the letters he was employed upon was to Lord Sligo at Jamaica, giving him an account of the state of things at home, and that there was some danger of its being too late for the packet.—Another of his letters, from which he read me some sentences, was on the subject of the new bishops; his own wish being strongly that Shuttleworth should be among the number. Speaking of Arnold, I remarked that it would be certainly a strong step to make him a bishop after his very latitudinarian pamphlet on Church Reform, in which he was for widening the portals of the Church so liberally as to admit, if I recollected right, even Jews.*—“Aye,” he said, “you call that *latitudinarianism*; but observe that the *principle* of intolerance is still preserved even in that apparently liberal plan; as after he has widened his pale to the extent which he thinks proper, he then draws his line as rigorously as any of the rest and says, like them, ‘Here we take our stand,’ or, in other words, ‘Here exclusion and intolerance begin.’”

16th. To dinner at Lord Essex's: company, Rogers (who took me), Luttrell, Byng, Rich, and one or two more, whom I forget. Conversation agreeable, particularly Lord Essex's stories about the Prince and old Travis. Off from thence to Lady John's, where I found only the remains of their dinner party, and among the rest Sergeant Talfourd, now radiant with the recent fame of his “Ion.” Introduced to him. Home.

19th. * * * Went from Rogers's to Devonshire House; a large assembly, where I met with a number of old acquaintances.—Had a good deal of talk with Lady Caroline Murray, and also with Lady King, who added another to my tantalising list for to-morrow, by asking me to meet her daughter-in-law, *Ada*, at dinner. By the by, Maclean, the American Minister, the other day, in remarking on the cool and easy way in which the English take

* Not Jews.—ED.

their own celebrated people, said that even he himself, though so long accustomed to this *poco-curanteism* of theirs, was quite surprised at the little sensation made by Lady King, the other day, on her first appearance. Nobody, he said, ever looked at her; whereas, to an American, the opportunity of seeing Lord Byron's daughter would be a sort of era in his life. I own I should like to see her myself, though I am not so sure that her mamma may not have prepossessed her mind with prejudices against me, which might possibly render our meeting not very agreeable. As I was coming away from Devonshire House, there was that gay "young gentleman about town," Rogers, just arrived, having got rid of his own party, and still so "up to everything" as to think it worth his while to come out at this late hour (between twelve and one o'clock) to attend a ducal assembly! Long may he be able and willing to do so, say I.

20th. It was past one when I got to bed last night, and this morning saw me at half-past nine walking with Lord Lansdowne in his garden. Congratulated him heartily (and *from my heart*) on the success of his speech the night before last, which has made really a great sensation. Dined at Stanley's (the Secretary of the Treasury), being called for and taken by Luttrell. Company, Sydney Smith (Jeffrey was also to have been of the party, but had been called off suddenly to Edinburgh by the death of a particular friend), Labouchere, Lord Clements, Lady Emmeline Wortley, Miss Dillon, &c. &c. In saying something about O'Connell (I forget what) Luttrell applied the line, "Through all the compass of the notes he ran," and then added, after a short pause, "The diapason closing full in *Dan*."

21st. Off in the "Regulator" at nine o'clock for Calne. An intelligent gentleman in the coach, with whom, *sicut meus est mos*, I became intimately acquainted on the journey, and had a good deal of interesting conversation. For a great part of the way, I supposed myself to be *incog.*, but found then that he had been told at the coach-office who he was to have for companion. We had been talking at the time about politics (he, a red-hot Conservative), when, struck by the mere fairness, I suppose, with which I had conceded some point to him, he said, "This is the first time, Sir, I

have ever had the honour of being in your society, but allow me to ask you, do you continue quite as much of a Liberal in your politics as you formerly were?" I answered, "Quite as much as ever. I, of course, see the dangers that lie in our path as clearly as you do, and could have wished that the necessary changes we are undergoing could have been brought about in a more gradual and skilful manner; but still the time had come for change, and we must now only take the rough with the smooth. The average quantity of public happiness will, I have little doubt, be increased by the process." Found all well at home, thank God. Among the invitations to dinner which I received, this time in town, and regretted not being able to accept, there were (besides the Greys' and Lady King's) the Milmans', Lord Hatherton's, Lord John's, Dr. Holland's, Lord Holland's, and one or two more.

25th. Visit from Bowles. Brought a new pamphlet of his, to ask my opinion as to the title: "Popish and Protestant Intolerance; the latter the least excusable of the two." Cried, of course, "Bravo!" to this; nothing in the world being truer. The people who appeal to reason are the very last who should find fault with others for making free use of it.

27th. Forgot to mention my having met Woolriche while in town, and walked some time with him. In talking of old times, the severe illness through which he (and Baillie) attended me, now thirty years ago, formed one of our subjects; and he gave me a much stronger notion of my danger at that time, than I had before entertained. Said that he had often mentioned the case since to some of his brother surgeons, and with surprise at his own courage in taking the step he did. From some cause or other (it did not seem certain what) there came a large abscess in my right side, which increased to suppuration, and my life or death, it seems, depended upon whether it broke outwardly or inwardly. The step taken by Woolriche was to apply caustic to the tumour, which succeeded in determining the discharge outwardly, and, according to him, saved my life. Reminded him that on the evening of that painful day, having been confined of course to my bed, I repeated to him some gay Epicurean verses which I had

composed during the eating of the caustic into the inflamed tumour. I should not be up to such a feat now, but seven-and-twenty and seven-and-fifty make all the difference. I rather think, however, that I was no more than six-and-twenty, as it must be now one-and-thirty years since I had that illness; and during the whole interval since, I have never (thanks be to God for such a blessing) been confined for one single day to my bed by any illness whatever! *Υγίαιεν μεν ἀριστον ἀνδρὶ Σὺντα.*

May 1st to 13th. Turned to work as well as I could, having been sadly thrown back by all these interruptions. Received, among other odd letters, one from Mr. Bailey, the Master of the Grammar School at Cambridge, who had before applied to me for permission to insert some of my translations of "Anacreon" in a new edition he is about to publish of Dalzel's "Analecta Græca Minora." In his present letter he has sent me—what I have been much amused and flattered by—namely, a corrected edition of the Greek Anacreontic I ventured to write and prefix to my translation. It was a hazardous step for a boy educated in such an unprosodian school as Dublin College then was to venture upon; but it never was much criticised; and the only two occasions on which I afterwards heard of it was once when I paid a visit to the Historical Society of Trinity College, and found among the compositions read on that evening, a translation of this same Greek Ode by Dr. Croly; and another time, when no less a Grecian than Charles Burney talked to me about it, and though (if I recollect right his words) he said that some of the metre of it was "not legitimate," yet, on the whole, his opinion left rather a flattering impression on my mind. But I own, I little expected, at this distance of time, to find a learned Greek of Cambridge sitting down gravely to annotate me and correct my *cako-logy*. The following is the very civil strain in which he speaks of my juvenile performance: "At the head of your volume is a Greek Ode in allusion to the frontispiece, in which I noticed some metrical peccadilloes; and straightway, by way of amusement, set about working them out. The *matériel* of the Ode, the felicity of expression which pervades it, and the general harmony of the lines are such, that it is paying you no compliment

whatever to say that, had you been of this University you would have been found nowhere but in the foremost ranks of those who have made Greek verse, and the writing of it, their study. I will transcribe it throughout, with the alterations I have ventured upon; distinguishing by the common metrical marks the syllables which, in the original copy, seem to militate against the rules of Greek prosody; supporting the proposed alterations by adequate reference, which I will do for brevity's sake, in Latin." All this he has done, and a most learned affair it looks. As I told him in my answer to his letter, "The school-boy was never so honoured by the scholiast before."

June 1st to 4th. At work at my History; finishing, also, some Sacred Songs for Cramer and Co.; and sending things occasionally to "The Chronicle." Since I returned home have sent them a parody on "The Unfortunate Miss Bailey"—"Oh, Lord Lyndhurst!" and "The Lofty Lords."

5th to 11th. Sent another thing to "The Chronicle," "Epistle from Captain Rock to Lord Lyndhurst," which has had great success. "The Globe," in extracting it, says as follows:—"There can be 'no mistake' about the author of the following lines; there is but one to whom the world will at once ascribe their paternity. We hope to have *more* of the same sort from the same witty writer." "The Courier," in its leading article, says, "There is, alas! too much truth in the following lines, addressed by Captain Rock to his friend Lord L—dh—t in an epistle, the whole of which we transfer to our columns from 'The Chronicle' of this morning." * * *

23rd. Had given up all thoughts of seeing Ellen till the next packet, when, to our joy, she arrived, having had, of course, a very rough passage, not arriving at Bristol till twelve o'clock last night. Quite well, however. Bessy all delight to have her here once more. Brought me, among other Irish reminiscences, some pretty lines enclosed to her by Miss O'Ferrall, in a note beginning thus:—"My dear Miss Moore,—I send you the promised lines, and beg of you to tell Mr. Moore that if he could have communicated to me a single spark of his own genius, I should have sent him some more brilliant tribute of *my own*; for, as we say in Ireland, 'It is not

my heart that would hinder me.” The verses are by a Miss Scriven, and as follows :—

LINES ADDRESSED TO THE SWAN'S QUILL WITH WHICH MR. MOORE WROTE HIS NAME IN MISS O'FERRALL'S SCRAP BOOK.

“How little didst thou think,
Oh fair and lovely plume,
While resting by the water's brink,
That thou shouldst e'er presume
To give thy gentle form
To that high hand of fame,
And thus, with feelings warm,
Inscribe so bright a name.
Were I a plume like thee,
I'd with my sires have vied,
And, uttering such sweet melody,
Have closed my wing and died.”

July 1st to 3rd. Notwithstanding Barnes's friendly letter, he has been shabby enough to insert some wretched poetry, in which I am attacked. If the poetry was even middling, I should have forgiven him; but your journalists! your journalists! Poor Perry must still hold his place as the phoenix of all newspaper men, that I, at least, have ever known.

14th. Dined at Money's: company, Mrs. Money and brother-in-law, Mr. Sutton, with rather a nice daughter, the Bowles, and the Starkeys. Got Bowles to tell the story of the bottle-green coat he bought at Monmouth Street. Told us also that he never lets a tailor measure him, thinking it “horrible.” The fellow must merely look at his shapes, and make the best he can of it. The new coat he then had on, was concocted, he told us, in this manner, and from a very hasty glance evidently; as rough guess-work as need be.

31st. Received a letter from M. of “The Globe,” containing a proposal of a plan from Macrone to publish a new edition of all my works on the following terms:—“One thousand pounds for an edition of your works, prose and poetical, complete, to be published by him; say 8000 copies, in monthly numbers, commencing with the ensuing year. If they got to fifteen volumes, he makes his offer 2000 guineas; Turner to embellish the volumes with his best style of illustrations, going, if necessary, to Ireland for the purpose. If you accede to his proposal, he will lay out immediately, *i. e.* between this and January, 500*l.* in advertisements; and he adds, that he will devote himself exclusively to its publication, so as to render it every way worthy of your

fame and the collection.” M. adds, that if I accede to the proposal he will himself come down next Sunday to make arrangements with me on the subject. Wrote an answer, saying that the plan proposed of a complete edition of my works (at least of the poetical parts of them) had long been a desired object with me, and that the Messrs. Longman had some time since entered with eagerness into the project; that of late, however, it had rather slumbered in their hands, owing to some difficulty, as I understood, raised by Power, whose concurrence, as proprietor of the copyright of most of my songs, would be indispensable towards our plan. I added, however, that I would lose no time in acquainting the Longmans with his proposal: and should certainly not hesitate in entering into terms with *him*, should I find *them* not so promptly disposed towards the undertaking as I could wish. Wrote, accordingly, to Rees.

August 1st and 2nd. An answer from Rees to say that he had seen Power on the subject, and would himself call upon me, on his way to Wales, to-morrow.

3rd. Rees arrived. A good deal of conversation between us, from the whole of which, I could collect that, though he assured me that they had never lost sight of the projected edition of my works, the fact was that they *had* set it aside, and that but for this proposal of Macrone's, it would have been allowed still to slumber on. It is evident that, immediately on receiving my letter, they had sent off for Power; and, instead of being an obstacle in the way of our plan, it appears he is quite ready to join in it. From something which Rees said as to our deferring any steps towards the edition till my “Irish History” is completed, I have no doubt that their anxiety for the termination of this work was the cause of their laying on the shelf the project of the edition.

5th. Informed Mr. Macrone of the result of my interview with Rees, and said that while I regretted his being disappointed in a speculation which he did me the honour to consider so promising, still I could not but feel that he had had a lucky escape in being saved the enormous difficulty and expense he would have had to encounter in getting possession of all the copyrights.

6th to 8th. Have not been able to keep notes of much of this time; but, except some

strange letters, from strange people, nothing worth recording has occurred. As the time approaches for the departure of our dear little Neli, we begin to fear more and more the loss we shall have of her. Among my letters was one from a clergyman, proposing the erection of a round tower, on the model of the ancient ones, at *Blarney*. Thought it at first a hoax, more particularly as he was pleased to say that *I* have done more to elucidate the history of those structures than any other antiquarian, whereas the truth is I have but left them where I found them.

9th to 14th. The accounts of poor Lord Kerry's state of health very alarming.

15th, 16th. Went over to dine with the Fieldings. Company, only Sir David Brewster, with whose good sense and simplicity of manner I was much pleased. I spoke of Sir W. Hamilton as one of the first, if not the first, among the men of science of this day.

17th. Returned home. Some more of the *Savans* expected at Lacock, viz. Whewell, Babbage, Dr. Roget, &c. Have had some letters lately from Lord Lansdowne on the subject of poor Kerry's illness, and the approaching meeting at Bristol, of which Lord L. is to be the President, and to which he has asked me to accompany him. The state of Kerry, however, renders it most unlikely that he will be able to go there.

20th. A visit from Babbage. Dr. Roget and Brewster, who are staying at Lacock, full of anxiety as to the chances of Lord L.'s being able to come. Told them that from his letter of yesterday I had scarcely a hope that it would be possible, and under all the circumstances most anxiously wished that they would relieve his mind from even thinking of it. Agreed that it would be right to do so; and accordingly, at their request, I wrote a letter to Lord L. expressing their wish that he would prevail on either Lord Minto or Lord Northampton to undertake the presidency in his stead. To this I added my own most anxious request that he would not think of coming.

24th. † * * * It is gratifying to see how general is the sympathy with the Lansdownes on their late severe loss; and it is a most trying loss. Poor Kerry having been most lucky in his marriage, was giving every promise of a

† Lord Kerry died on the 21st of this month.

manhood of usefulness and honour when he was thus (not unexpectedly, however, to many) snatched away. It is too sad.

September 17th. Lord and Lady Lansdowne arrived at Bowood about the 10th. Bessy had written to Miss Fox to inquire about them, saying, what is most true, "As you are the person whom all fly to for kindness on such occasions, I write," &c. &c. Her answer most kind and (as far as could be expected under the circumstances) satisfactory.

18th. Went over to Bowood: found Miss Fox, and afterwards Lord L., looking a good deal worn, and still suffering from the attack of gout which came most seasonably in the midst of his mental agony. Such a relief was this *contre-coup* to him, that he assured me, notwithstanding the violence of the pain, he actually slept soundly with it. A good deal of conversation on various subjects. Had luncheon. Poor Lady L. herself looking calm, and even occasionally smiling, but marked indelibly with the loss she has suffered. Felt it difficult to express my own feeling while looking at her, but did so; and came away full of admiration and sympathy for them all, that amiable Miss Fox included.

October 1st. * * * Disappointed of having Russell out. A note from Saunders, saying that the rule is against it, and that he could not make an exception in his favour. This I ought to have recollected, the first Saturday after the return to school being a forbidden day. Hume, too, whom I had written to, never made his appearance, so that I was thrown on my own resources. Accordingly dined alone at Brookes's, being reminded, both by the weather and the dinner, of Swift's well-turned lines,—

"On rainy days alone I dine
Upon a chick and pint of wine;
On rainy days I dine alone,
And pick my chicken to the bone."

3rd. Went out to dine with the Longmans at Hampstead; Rees, myself, and M'Culloch having clubbed in a hackney coach for the occasion. Talk with M'Culloch about Sir William Petty; told him of poor Lord Kerry's having been employed in preparing some papers of Petty's for publication, to be accompanied with a memoir of Petty's life, in which Kerry had made some progress, and that it

was my intention (as soon as the family were sufficiently recovered from their grief to bear such a proposal) to offer to take up this project where Kerry left it, and avail myself of the opportunity it would afford for paying a tribute to his memory. McCulloch strongly recommended that I should make it a durable monument at once, by publishing (as he had often suggested before) a complete edition of all Sir W. Petty's works, with a full account of his life. Mentioned his various accomplishments, his dancing and gymnastic tricks described by Evelyn, &c., &c. Company at dinner, besides our hackney-coach party, Chief Justice Tindal and his Lady, Charles Phillippis, Taylor (Van Artevelde), and one or two others.

4th. Went with Hume and Dr. Travers (a young Irishman who, it seems, is preparing an answer to Mason's attack upon the *religious* part of my Irish "History," to the Zoological Gardens, to see the giraffes. Hume's account of his meeting with Sterling (of "The Times") the other day. Sterling (who had somebody walking with him when they met) said banteringly, at the same time opening Hume's waistcoat, "Let us see if you have got the regular Whig *badge*, the death's head and cross bones, upon your breast." Hume, without appearing to notice what he had said, quietly took up the skirt of Sterling's coat, and after examining it for a little while, looked up into Sterling's face, and said, with a sort of dry surprise, "Why you've turned your coat!"

7th. Walked to Kensington, and there took to an omnibus. Went to Thorpe's, the bookseller, and looked over some of his curious old books relating to Ireland. Made several extracts. From thence to the British Museum, where I worked for some hours, and returned to Holland House to dinner. Company: Lord and Lady Lilford (just arrived from Paris, she looking prettier that ever), Lord Radnor and his son Lord Folkestone, Lord Ebrington, Charles Fox and Lady Mary. Day agreeable. In talking of the Russian bands of music, where each performer has his own single note to produce, Lord Holland said, that there was always a man walking about with a cane, who hit each fellow, at the proper moment, to make him bring out his note. This notion of Lord H.'s produced a good deal of diversion;

and I mentioned as a case in point, the *pig* instrument invented by some abbé for the amusement of Louis XV. (I believe), wherein pigs of different ages (the young ones performing the treble, and the old—according to their respective years—the bass) constituted the musical scale, there being keys provided, as in a harpsicord, with a spike at the end of each, which, on the key being struck, touched the pig, and made him utter his note, whilst at the same time there were muzzles contrived (in the manner of dampers, for stopping vibration) which seized the pig's mouth the moment he had given out his note, and prevented his further intonation till again wanted. Thus, as Pope says of asses,

"Pig intoned to pig,
Harmonic twang."

And the whole living instrument being covered over and disguised, in the manner of an organ, the abbé performed upon it, to the no small delight of the King and his court. This story amused Lord Holland a good deal.

9th. Left a card at Lady Rawson's, who had written to me some days before, and sent me a copy of a French translation of the "*Loves of the Angels*," by a Pole named Ostrowski. The translator gives me a title by which I am not a little flattered, calling me "the national poet of all oppressed countries." But he also makes a fallen angel of me, addressing my bardship thus, in what he calls an allocation,—

"D'où te vient la splendeur de ce front étoilé
O Moore! n'es tu pas un archange exilé?"

His appealing to myself for confirmation of this suspicion of his is not a little comical. On our way to Lady Rawson's, in passing through George St. Portman Square, I pointed out to Russell, as I had done once before to Tom, the house, No. 44, where I first lodged when I came to London. Seeing a bill on the house of lodgings to let, I took advantage of it to have a peep at my own old two-pair-of-stair quarters, and found that the two rooms were to be let for sixteen shillings a week, which shows they have not gone down in the world since I occupied them, as I paid for the two but half a guinea a week, having for some time inhabited the front room alone at seven shillings a week, and it was in that room that the first proof sheet I ever received (*i. e.* of

my Anacreon) was put into my hands by Tom Hume.

12th. Got out early, and performed some of my home commissions, besides routing away for a couple of hours at the British Museum. Had written to Lord John to say that I would be with him to-day, and, having secured a luncheon at Brookes's, knowing I should be too late for his dinner, started for Tunbridge at a quarter before three. A young Frenchman, part of the way, inside, with whom I was rather amused. Tremendous storm and rain as we approached Tunbridge. Stopped at the (I forget the name) Inn, Lord John having apprised me that, from the smallness of his house, he could not *bed* me. Found a servant with a note from him, to say that I must come on to dinner at his house immediately on my arrival.

13th. Joined them at breakfast. Some curious particulars about the King. * * * Went out to drive with Lady John, meaning to go to Penshurst, Lord John joining us on horseback, but the weather was so stormy that we did not go on to the house, but merely stopped to take a view of the place from the hill; Lady John very agreeable; and a nicer little pair than the two, in their several ways, it would not be easy to find. None but themselves at dinner. Sung a little for them in the evening, and off to my inn at night. In talking of Lord Stanley, and the boyishness of his character and conduct, Lord John, looking inquiringly at me, said, "I thought that very good in 'The Chronicle' about the Boy Statesman, didn't you?" This was my own squib, founded on Matthews's "That boy'll be the death of me." I, of course, laughed, and acknowledged what I saw he was already pretty sure of.

14th. Started for town per coach at nine o'clock, and got to my own quarters before three. * * *

28th. Macrone arrived in the evening.

29th. Found our visitor a very agreeable, clever, dashing young fellow, knowing a great deal of the general literature of the day, and having seen and known something of most of the eminent men of the time, particularly his own countrymen, viz. Sir Walter Scott, Jeffrey, Hogg, &c. His knowledge of Scott's life and habits chiefly derived from his intimacy with Laidlaw (Sir Walter's bailiff or

man of business), whom I recollect seeing at Abbotsford, and who, like single-speech Hamilton, might be called single-song Laidlaw, as he was the author of one very pretty Scotch ballad, called Lucy's Flitting (which I remember Scott's giving me to read), and never wrote anything else. Was delighted to learn from Macrone that Laidlaw said he never saw Scott so pleased or happy with any visitor as he was during the few days I passed at Abbotsford, nor ever knew him to *work* so little as he did during that time. "There was no one else in the house," said Laidlaw (according to Macrone's report); "he had Moore all to himself, and seemed to enjoy it thoroughly." This (which I am willing to believe true, as it tallies, indeed, very much with what I myself observed at the time), gave me, of course, great pleasure to hear. * * *

December 24th. * * * Anecdotes of Lord Alvanley. Story told by ———, who was his second in the duel with Maurice O'Connell: Alvanley's silence as they proceeded in the carriage to the place of meeting. ——— thinking to himself, "Well, I see Alvanley is for once made serious;" and then, to break the silence, saying, "Let what will come of it, Alvanley, the world is extremely indebted to you for calling out this fellow as you have done." "The world indebted to me, my dear fellow!" answered Alvanley, "I am devilishly glad to hear it, for then the world and I are quits." Mentioned, also, that at some country house where they were getting up a dramatic piece, founded upon Scott's "Rebecca," they wanted Alvanley to take the part of the Jew, but he declined, saying, "Never could *do* a Jew in my life."

Returned home, glad to get to work, and not meaning to go to Bowood again till the arrival of Rogers, who is expected there. Had two letters from him; one a particularly kind one, chiding me for not having taken up my quarters at his house when I was last in town, and when he himself was in Paris. "But why (he says) did not you the other day come at once to my house and ask for a bed there? Have not I told you to do so again and again, you varlet you?" * * *

1837.

APRIL 5th. Arrived in Paternoster Row between nine and ten. Found Rees, some cold meat and hot brandy and water, awaiting me. Rees, by the by, is about to quit the firm, and Tom Longman, the eldest son, who succeeds to his place, has been for some time past my chief business correspondent. A great dinner at the Row, for which I had been secured before I came up; and not a bad thing to start with, as the company consisted of Sydney Smith, Canon Tate (a regular *Princeps Editio* old fellow, whom I had never met with before), Merivale, Dionysius the Tyrant, McCulloch, and Mr. Hayward, the translator of "Faust," but better known as the author of some late culinary articles in the "Quarterly." Sydney most rampantly facetious; his whole manner and talk forming a most amusing contrast to the Parson Adams-like simplicity and middle-aged lore of his brother canon, Tate, whom I sat next, and who, between the volleys of Sydney's jokes, was talking to me of "that charming letter written by Vossius to Casaubon," and "the trick played by that rogue Muretus upon Scaliger." *Apropos* of this trick (which was the imposing upon Scaliger, as ancient, some Latin verses written by himself, and which of course Scaliger never forgave), I took occasion to mention that I had often thought of writing a "History of celebrated Forgeries," or rather had thought what a good subject it would be for any person who had time and learning enough to undertake it. The great variety of topic it would embrace; first, the *historical* forgers, Philo of Byblos, Annianus of Viterbo, Hector Boece, Geoffrey of Monmouth, &c. Then the *ecclesiastical* impostures, such as the numerous false gospels, &c.; then the *literary*, including that of "the rogue Muretus," that of Jortin, "*Quæ te sub tenebrâ*," &c. (which took in, not designedly, however, the learned Gruter), and so on to Chatterton, Lauder, and lastly, Ireland. Conversation turned on Boz, the new comic writer. Was sorry to hear Sydney cry him down, and evidently without having given him a fair trial. Whereas, to me it appears one of the few proofs of good taste that "the masses," as they are called, have yet given, there being

some as nice humour and fun in the "Pickwick Papers" as in any work I have seen in our day. Hayward, the only one of the party that stood by me in this opinion, engaged me for a dinner (at his chambers) on Thursday next.

7th. Got to work a little after nine, and remained hard at it till near four. Lardner came in dismay, not knowing of my arrival, and (there being now, it appears, really no other volume to substitute for mine) despairing of carrying on his series this month. Much cheered by finding that I had no doubt of being ready in time. In a late letter to Tom Longman, I called Lardner & Co. the *cab** drivers; not a bad name for them, I think. Sallied out for the West End. Went to Brookes's, where Rogers came to look for me. Offered to dine with him to-day, which he most heartily agreed to. Called at Lansdowne House; saw Lady Lansdowne, who asked me to dinner to-day, and finding I was engaged, asked me for to-morrow. Rogers very agreeable. Mentioned the Duke of Wellington saying to some enthusiastic woman who was talking in raptures about the glories of a victory, "I should so like to witness a victory!" &c. &c., "My dear madam, a victory is the greatest tragedy in the world, except one,—and that is a defeat."

8th. Hard at work till dinner time.—Company at the Lausdownes, Lord and Lady Holland, the John Russells, the Morleys, Lord Seaforth, the Duke of Argyll, Baring, and one or two more. Sat between Allen and Sir George Grey. In talking of my "History" to Allen, who made some inquiries about it, I remarked that I was lucky in being the first to have the advantage of the facilities which O'Connor's work furnishes to a historian of Ireland, and which before were in a great measure sealed up. He said that pretty much the same was Hallam's good luck, who, in writing his "Constitutional History," had the advantage of the Rolls of Parliament, then recently made public. Some talk between Lord John, Baring, and myself, on the subject of parliamentary oratory; the difficulty of interweaving those parts which every orator, to be effective, must *prepare*, with those called forth by the impulse and demands of the mo-

* In allusion to the *Cabinet Cyclopaedia*, of which Dr. L. was the editor.

ment. Baring quoted as one of those things of Canning's which must have been elaborately prepared, though appearing to arise out of the suggestions of the moment, and which ended with some such sentence as, "We find the bird of Diogenes in the man of Plato." * Must remember to look to Canning's speeches for the passage.

10th. Moved to the West End, and took up my quarters in Fielding's secluded and comfortable room, where I felt I should be able to work double tides. Dinner at the Hollands : company, Sydney Smith, Lord Melbourne, and Lord Kinnaird.

12th. Was obliged to leave my work at three, and sally forth to the printer (Shoe Lane) about some difficulty that had occurred. Most troublesome people these midwives of the Muse. If they wouldn't take upon themselves to *think*, one could get on pretty well ; but the moment they begin to "think they're thinking," all goes wrong. Thus, in quoting the Four Masters, in my notes, I have always written "IV. Mag. ;" but the wise compositor or reader took it into his head to *think* that it ought to be "Mag. IV.," and though I go on continually marking so, "IV. Mag.," and it comes back generally in the *first* revise right, yet in the *second* it is always sure to be transposed back again *wrong*.

Dined at Lansdowne House : company, Lord and Lady Mahon, Lord and Lady Fitzharris, Lord Clare, the Lysters, Eastlake the painter, and Barry the architect. Sat next Lord Mahon, and had some interesting conversation with him. Talked of the Duke of Wellington, for whom I professed (without remembering at the time Lord Mahon's *dévouement* to him) all the admiration which he has at length fairly *extorted* from me, in the very teeth of long-cherished prejudice and dislike to him. And after all, too, it is his *pen-and-ink work* that has made a convert of me. Those Despatches of his recently published — those most interesting Despatches, — full of traits of thoughtfulness, modesty, consideration for others, patience under misrepresentation, and

all, in short, (combined with the vast things he was then accomplishing and preparing) that goes to make the character of a great man, as well as of a great and fortunate soldier. Expressed myself much to this purpose to Lord Mahon, who, of course, agreed with me most zealously, and said that there was one part of the Duke's political career—his conduct in 1832 (during the attempt made by the Tories to construct an administration) — which was little known to the public, but was sure some time or other to come to light, and rebound most memorably to his honour.

Some general conversation, after dinner, about India, in the course of which Lord Clare gave no very agreeable idea either of the country itself or of the society there. A great want of beautiful scenery, all being so flat ; and even where elevated, being but an ascending series of flats. The society very much of the same description : people take no interest in any person or events that are not immediately under their noses. "If I were to talk," said Lord Clare, "of Lord Lansdowne, or any other of my friends at home, they would think I was coming Captain Grand over them ; I, therefore, carefully avoided all such subjects." Speaking of Rogers, and the feeling between him and Byron, Lord Clare mentioned having seen Rogers at Rome (I think), after his visit to Byron, and R.'s telling him of Byron having said that there were but two men in the world he felt any affection for. "You were one (added Rogers), and I am sorry to say *I* was not the other." Lord Clare, after mentioning this, turned round to me and said, "You, I think, were the other." Lord Mahon, *à propos* of some story about *souls*, quoted to me my own lines, "Says Malthus one day to a clown" (which I had myself quite forgotten), and went through several stanzas of them. It constantly happens to me thus to find people remembering my own things much better than I do myself ; which shows, at least, that the parturition of them was easy.

Forgot to mention that the day before yesterday, I think, when I was sitting with Rogers (or rather standing, for we neither of us trouble chairs much), he pointed to a note lying on the table, and said, "There's glory." On my replying that he must have many such testimonies to his glory, he said "No, but read it."

* This is a mis-quotation. The passage, though I cannot find it, was to this effect : — "Gentlemen opposite are always talking of the people as distinguished from the rest of the nation. But strip the nation of its aristocracy, strip it of its magistrates, strip it of its clergy, of its merchants, of its gentry, and I no more recognise a people than I recognise in the bird of Diogenes the man of Plato."—ED.

On doing which I found it was a printed circular from my rather too active partisan, M., proposing a dinner to be given to me by my friends and admirers during my stay in town. Despatched a note off instantly to M., to deprecate the design, telling him that I would explain to him all my manifold reasons when we met. On the same evening Lord Holland produced to me another of these missives (or rather missiles) which had been discharged at him.

15th. Edward Moore called. A kind and sensible letter from Dr. Taylor. Received within this day or two, by the by, from Sloper-ton, an anonymous letter, that had arrived there for me since I left home; rather amusing. Begins thus: "Dear Moore, I do not know you. I hate your politics, but I love your songs; and it is from the love I bear those songs that I now write," &c. &c. The writer then proceeds to recommend an edition of my lyrical productions, with the music neatly engraved over each song. Out at four. Received this morning a copy of some new illustrations of "Lalla Rookh," entitled "Pearls of the East," and professing to be portraits of the principal heroines of that work. Not very like the ladies I should hope.

One of the dinners I have been at at Lansdowne House lately is thus announced in the "Court Circular:"—"On such a day "the Marquis of Lansdowne entertained Mr. Thomas Moore and a number of other literary and scientific gentlemen, at dinner at Lansdowne House." These literaries and scientifics having been in reality a party of fine Lords and Ladies. Paid some visits. Dined at Lord John's: company, the Lansdownes, Lord Melbourne, Lord Grey and his daughter, Lord Carlisle and his daughter, and Baron Bulow. Lord and Lady Lansdowne remarked to me, that I had not looked at all well the other day at Lansdowne House; and I can well suppose that fag and worry do tell upon me, in despite of all my buoyancy of spirit, which, I thank God, seldom fails. Dinner very agreeable. It was remarked, *à propos* of something, how much more tenaciously the remembrance of historical personages and events are preserved among the common class of people in Ireland than in England. "You say, I perceive, (said Lord Melbourne, turning to me, in allusion to my 'Captain Rock,') that Lord Strafford is still remem-

bered in Ireland under the name of Black Tom." I remarked, that the Irish were in every respect a people of traditions, dwelling for ever on the past; and Lord Carlisle said, with but too much truth, perhaps, that this is the characteristic of a people backward in civilisation; that, as nations advance, they leave their traditions behind them, or (as I think he expressed it) that "according as a people became instructed, their traditions vanished."—A good deal of talk about Cromwell and his character. In speaking of Talleyrand, after we went up to coffee, Bulow mentioned Talleyrand's having told him that none of those speeches he delivered in the Convention were his own. Had them all written for him, and read them out from the tribune. Talleyrand attributed the misfortunes of all the rulers who have reigned over France, from Napoleon down to Louis Philippe, to the neglect of the counsels which he (Talleyrand) gave them. Bulow said that Talleyrand's lameness was owing to a pig having eaten away part of the foot when he was a child. Had been placed *en nourrice*, according to the old French mode, and the nurse having left him alone one day, a hungry pig that was near got at him, and *rongeait* one of his feet. (Have mentioned this since to Lady Holland, and she says there is no truth whatever as to the pig, though the lameness did arise from an accident at nurse. I believe it, however, to be a case of scrofula.) Came away with the Lansdownes, who very kindly insisted upon leaving me at my own door, as the night was so very cold. Did intend to have gone to Babbage's *soirée* (as did also Lady L.), but had stayed too late at Lord John's.

16th. At work till half-past five, when I dressed for dinner (though not having to dine till half-past seven), and went to Brookes's to relax over the Sunday newspapers. Overtook Sir Robert Peel near White's, who greeted me most cordially. "Ah, Moore, how do you do? I am so glad to see you." Told him that I had called upon him last time I was in town, which he seemed not to have known; and said that at any time when he was at home, if I sent in my card, he would be most happy to see me. Dined at Byng's, having fixed the day myself, in order that he might get Fonblanque to meet me: company, Fonblanque, Shiel, Lord Ebrington, Lord Clanricarde, and

a German Count (Walstein, I believe). Some talk with Fonblanque about his paper, "The Examiner," and its deserved success: the more to be rejoiced at as it told well for the readers as well as for the *writer*, the wit being of that high kind which required the recipient also to be of no ordinary description. Quoted to him a passage from one of his own papers, as an instance of the sort of condensed wit which I thought required minds very different from those of the common run of readers to seize and appreciate properly. It was one which I may have already stated in this journal, where, in speaking of the martial tendencies of the Irish parsons, he says, "It is curious to observe how an Irish parson, in hot water, assumes the military colour." Seemed pleased with my remarks on this, and said "from *you* particularly," &c. &c. On my return home, between eleven and twelve o'clock, sat down again to my proofs, and worked till half-past two. * * *

24th. Dined at Lord Grey's: company, besides their own family, the Hollands, Rogers, Lord Duncannon, and Ellice. The day very agreeable. In the evening came some of the Carlises, and the Duke of Sutherland, with his engaging Duchess, who combines the thoroughly feminine woman with the air of the "high-born ladye" in a most remarkable and pleasing manner.

27th. Went to the Longmans, for the no less awful purpose than the looking over my account with them for some years past. Had time but for the sum totals on both sides, and found the result more satisfactory than I had expected; the interest of the sums deposited by me in their hands some years since having sufficed pretty nearly to cover all the advances they have made me. Shiel, one of these mornings, at Brookes's, told me some good things said by the Irish barrister, Keller, my godfather. To some judge, an old friend of Keller's, a steady solemn fellow, who had succeeded as much in his profession as Keller had failed, he said one day, "In opposition to all the laws of natural philosophy, you have *risen* by your *gravity*, while I have *sunk* by my *levity*." Shiel mentioned to me his intention of quoting some time soon in the House, Lord Bacon's praise of Ireland (the passage where an allusion to the harp occurs), introducing it by first quoting some lines of mine to the

same purpose, and then saying, "You may object that this comes from a poet and an Irishman; but I will now produce to you one who is," &c. &c.

Dined at Murray's: company, Dr. and Mrs. Somerville, Croker, and Sir David Wilkie and his sister; the first time of my meeting with Croker for many years. Mrs. Somerville, whom I had never before seen so much of, gained upon me exceedingly. So much unpretending womanliness of manner joined with such rare talent and knowledge is, indeed, a combination that cannot be too much admired.

29th. After breakfasting at Rogers's, went to Maclise's, and gave him a long sitting; ditto to Moore at his house in Holland street. Was obliged to be dressed and ready at half-past four, to accompany Rogers to the Academy in order to have a view of the exhibition before dinner. The whole thing, exhibition, dinner, and company, a spectacle well worth being present at. Was sorry to see that the Duke of Wellington entirely forgets me, though, to be sure, so many years have passed since I dined at his table in Dublin, when he was secretary there, that it is by no means to be wondered at. We have been thrown together once or twice in society, of late years, and then from the few words that passed between us, I was in hopes that he remembered me; but from the manner in which he received me to-day, when Rogers, after shaking hands with him himself, made a sort of half presentation of me to him, I am pretty sure he has no recollection of me whatever. Got seated near Jones, the artist, who, in talking of Turner's forthcoming designs from the "Epicurean," mentioned his having "attempted" some subjects from it himself, and his being curious to see whether Turner had fixed upon the same. Had some talk too with Turner about his task, and on referring to the subjects I had marked for him, he said, "There is one you have done yourself," meaning, as he added, the incident of the Epicurean hanging by the ring. From the dinner Rogers and I went together to Babbage's, where we stayed but a short time, and then home. * * *

May 3rd to 10th. From this throughout the remainder of the month I had neither time, nor indeed much material, for journalising; every moment being devoted to the

careful correction of my "Epicurean," both in its prose form, as published, and in the poetical shape which it was at first intended to wear. Found among my papers a part of the latter, viz., a rough copy of a letter from the high priest of Memphis, which I had entirely forgotten, but which I have now furbished up, and think it one of the best things in the heroic metre that I have ever written.

* * * * *

June 1st, &c. Having long meditated a trip to France with Tom, for the purpose of placing him somewhere (not in Paris) where he may lay in a little French before he embarks in his profession, I wrote to Corry about this time, asking him to join us in our expedition, which he readily consented to do. * * * On the 10th sailed for Boulogne, and arrived at Paris on the 12th. * * *

14th. Took Tom to introduce him to Chabot, and we were a good deal struck by the homeliness of his royal lodgings (up three pair of stairs in the Tuileries), the arms emblazoned here and there on the furniture, being the only things that reminded us of our being in the dwelling of royalty. Dined at Meurice's, at the *table d'hôte*, and went in the evening to the Tuileries. Had three tickets admitting six persons among us three, but were not aware that they admitted to different places. One of the tickets, which was of a different colour, being for the roof of the Tuileries, from whence the best view of the fireworks could be obtained. Had to encounter a good deal of confusion in going in, from our ignorance of this difference in the tickets, and not liking to separate myself from Corry, I gave Tom that which admitted to the roof, while Corry and I took our places in the garden of the *Château*, just under the balcony at which Louis Philippe and *la Famille* (as they are called by distinction) were seated. Anxious about Tom I again went out, and had to experience fresh difficulties in coming back again, during which I was twice irritated into speaking angrily to those fierce fellows with swords in their hands, who, to do them justice, treated my *brutum fulmen* very good-humouredly and concedingly. But there is something so humiliating in being pushed back, that if there was a whole army of them I could not refrain

from speaking my mind to them as I did then. The fire-works beautiful; and what with the flowers, the moonlight, the gay dresses of the women seated round, and the sweet airs played by the military band, I thought it all very delightful, but, like all other very delightful things, sad and affecting. (The Marseillaise Hymn was among the airs they played.) Nor was it the least touching part of the whole spectacle to see that poor Louis Philippe, whom, when I was last in France, I left living happily and comfortably with his family, like an English gentleman in the country—the ladies all at their work-table in the evening, and the children brought in to play with their hoops about the room;—to see him now placed in so very different a situation, not knowing from minute to minute whether the assassin's aim was not levelled at him, and obliged to rise and make obeisance to a set of gazers whom he must both fear and despise, whenever any one of them chooses to greet him with a half-ironical cheer. It seemed to me, in general, indeed, the voice of a child that began the feeble "Vive le Roi," with which he was greeted. From our position we could not see any of the fire-works but those which rose into the air (whereat Corry grumbled like a great school-boy); but these were well worth seeing, particularly a small balloon, which occasionally detached from itself, as it rose, other bodies, or offsets as it were of light, without losing its own lustre; and the last grand *bouquet*, which exceeded all that I had ever before seen in the pyrotechnic line. Re-joined by Tom, who had seen the whole perfectly and was in ecstasies.

16th. Went to the Chamber of Deputies, and were lucky enough to come in for the briskest "turn up" (as the gentlemen of the ring would call it) that has occurred for a long time. The question turned upon a point of order, M. Mauguin having asked for explanations on the subject of the *Traité d'Afrique*, and nothing short of an actual *row* could exceed the agitation of the scene. The following specimen of it, from an account given in the "Constitutionnel" of this morning, may afford some little notion of what we witnessed, but the gesticulations and violent *acting* of the President it would be difficult to give any notion of.

"*M. Berryer*. Je ne dis pas non ; mais j'ai la parole.

"*M. Augustin Giraud*. On ne peut pas vous empêcher de parler ; c'est une tyrannie. (Vive agitation.)

"*M. le President*. Je dois protéger la liberté de la tribune : *M. Giraud*, je vous prie de ne pas interrompre la discussion. Vous troublez l'ordre.

"*M. A. Giraud*. Vous devez maintenir la parole à l'orateur. (L'agitation continue.)

"*M. le President*. *M. Giraud*, je vous rappelle nominativement à l'ordre.

"*M. A. Giraud*. Et moi, je rappelle *M. le President* au sentiment de convenances. (Tumulte.)

"*M. le President*. Je vous rappelle à l'ordre pour la seconde fois. (Nouvelle agitation.)

"*M. Berryer* (au milieu du bruit). Messieurs

"*M. Garaube*. Aux voix ! aux voix !

"*M. Berryer*. J'ai le droit

"*M. de Vauguyon* (frappant sans discontinuer son pupitre avec son couteau de bois). Aux voix ! aux voix !

"*M. Pataille* (rivalisant de force et d'agilité avec le couteau de *M. Vauguyon*). Aux voix ! aux voix !

"*M. Roux* (dont le couteau lutte glorieusement avec les couteaux de *MM. Vauguyon* et *Pataille*). Aux voix ! &c."

And so it goes on :—"Tumulte inoui ; les cris, aux voix ! et les roulements des couteaux redoublent avec une nouvelle énergie ; les dames se bouchent les oreilles, l'infatigable couteau de *M. Vauguyon* domine sur tous les autres couteaux," &c. &c. It was stated in another paper that personalities had passed between the president and some of the agitators, and it looked to me as if all was personality. * * *

24th. Went to Madame de Flahaut, whom I found sitting in the garden with her beautiful daughter (a beauty which struck me to be as pleasing as it was brilliant), and Lord Sandwich and another young man along with them. Have seen no hotel as handsome as theirs in Paris. Sat for some time, and regretted very much not seeing Flahaut, who is among the few men I like as well as admire.

25th. A visit, during breakfast, from *M. B.*,

whom I did not at first recollect, but found out afterwards that I had known him when formerly at Paris, though his reputation as a writer has been, I believe, chiefly acquired since ; several collections of old chronicles having been, I see, edited by him, and his name been frequently joined with that of Guizot, as a fellow-labourer in that line of ancient lore. On hearing of my intention to proceed to Caen, offered me letters of introduction in that quarter. Talked very cleverly and eloquently of the state of France, of Louis Philippe's avarice, his insincerity in holding forth hopes to the people (both his own and those of other countries) that he would aid them in acquiring popular institutions, while he was holding an entirely different language to their rulers. * * *

30th. Breakfasted about nine [at Caen]. Rothe called, and all walked out together ; the first great object being the pension for Tom.

July 1st. Breakfasted at home. A visit from Wright, bringing with him, to introduce to me, a very clever and amiable-mannered man, *M. Bertrand*, a Professor of Greek literature in the University of Paris, and a great admirer, as I soon discovered, of my poetry. Has translated several of the "Irish Melodies," and told me himself that it was my poetry first won him into the study of English. A good deal of conversation, during which he explained to me the nature of the professorships and colleges through France. After he had gone Rothe came, and we walked out together. Had not gone very far when Wright came running breathless after us, to say that *M. Bertrand* would, he believed, take Tom. Went with him to that gentleman's house, and found both him and his wife (who is much older than himself) very kind and amiable on the subject. From what I had heard Rothe and others say of him, was of course very anxious to secure so good a position for Tom ; and, to my great joy, now found that there was no difficulty in the matter ; he himself appearing to be quite as much pleased with the office, as I was at his accepting it. Was going, he told me, to his country-seat in a month or so, and would take Tom with him. In the meantime, would have a room prepared for him at his house in Caen. Asked about Tom's Greek

studies, but I told him that my chief object for him now was French and French literature. On my coming to speak of terms, he assured me that that was the last consideration with him; and that he was chiefly actuated by the pleasure of being able to do any thing that would show his respect and admiration for me. It would be far more agreeable, he added, to leave the settlement of terms to some third person; and, on my mentioning Rothe, said, that most willingly would he leave the whole matter to him. Drove out afterwards with the General*, who expressed great delight at my good fortune in this arrangement; only regretting it, he said, for one reason, which was, that his brother and himself had made up their minds to offer Tom a reception in their house. Had begged of Rothe to settle the terms with Bertrand, but Wright had been beforehand with him; and it appeared that from 100 to 120 francs a month was all that he would require. Called upon the chief *libraire* of the place; an intelligent man, and possesses several very rare and valuable books, but finds no market for them, he said, in Caen. Is collecting all the remains of the Abbé de la Rue, for an edition of his works, with autograph letters from English antiquarians, Druce, &c. Bought of him the French engravings of the "Tapisserie de Bayeux." Showed me some fine missals; no encouragement for such an establishment as his at Caen, but sends to other markets. Dined at the General's: company Rothe, Wright, Brummel, and one or two others. The poor Beau's head gone, and his whole looks so changed that I never should have recognised him. Got wandering in his conversation more than once during dinner.

3d. Breakfasted with the General, and off soon after for Bayeux; Rothe, Tom, and myself. My conversations with this worthy fellow* have all been most interesting, but I can only note rapidly a few particulars. Gave us to-day an account of his escape from Kilmainham, where he had been kept a prisoner for a year and a half. The preparations made in the ball court or tennis-court, where the prisoners were allowed to play every evening,—the place of concealment formed in the heap of sand,—the ladder of ropes prepared,—its failing to reach the persons waiting on the other

side,—at another time breaking. The night of escape, he himself getting safely over, and waiting in vain for his companion; mounting again and looking over the wall for him; seeing that he had fallen and would not venture to try again. Obligated to make his own escape. Major Sirr on board the ship in which he lay concealed during the passage. A long life of prosperity and happiness would hardly repay what he suffered during that year and a half. Reminded him of what he told me, when we last met, of Napoleon's dislike of the Irish. Explained it more fully now, by saying that it arose out of the rivalry then subsisting between Napoleon and Hoche, and the game of the latter being Ireland, which interfered with the designs of Napoleon, both his jealousy and his impatience combined to make all that was connected with Ireland odious to him. Corbet then passed to his detention, along with three other French officers, at Hamburgh, for the details of which, as well as of the negotiations to which it gave rise, I must, some time or other, consult the public accounts. Having served through all the Peninsular War, being in the retreat at Salamanca, &c., Corbet joined the French army of Russia, and was in the battle of Leipsic, then in the defence of Paris, and was the bearer of a flag of truce from Marmont to the Emperor Alexander. Described his interview with Alexander, his deafness, his anxiety to ask questions of Corbet, but, whenever Corbet interposed a remark as to his immediate object, referring him to the official person (I forget who or what) by his side. Marmont held out stoutly on that occasion, refusing to capitulate, and insisting upon an armistice, so as to enable the army to join the Emperor. Corbet's name not mentioned in the public accounts of this negotiation with the Emperor, which he seemed to think lucky, on account of the unpopularity (if I recollect right) which afterwards attached itself to the transaction. But I must take an opportunity soon of reading about all these events, and correcting the impression (if wrong) which I received from his details.

Mentioned, as an instance of Clausel's coolness, in the retreat from Salamanca, his (Corbet's) being sent to him at night to say, that the English had got possession of a certain important post: Clausel, whom he had found

* General Corbet.

fast asleep, on being awakened and told the intelligence, just paused for a few moments, to consider the bearings of his position, and then saying coolly, "It is impossible," turned round and went to sleep again. In talking of Scott's *Napoleon*, Corbet said that it was "an odious work." He had read, with the greatest admiration and delight all Scott's novels, but, "when he came to peruse his *Napoleon*, he was utterly disgusted. To say nothing of the mistakes and ignorance with which it abounded, the intentional falsifications throughout the work were such as drove him, however unwillingly, to the conclusion that Scott was a bad man. This opinion must, of course, be taken with all the allowances that Corbet's position and prepossessions would naturally suggest; but it was the opinion of a truly honest man,—a man (if I am not mistaken in him) of the true grave and steady nature of which heroes and martyrs have been most generally made. As an old poet well says,—

"Your sad, wise valour, is the true complexion,
That leads the van, and swallows up the cities."

Apròpos of this, I found Corbet to be of exactly the same opinion as that held by most authorities respecting the character of the Spaniards. "Nothing," he said, "would make them fight well." Spoke highly of Flahaut, who, he said, was, next to Caulaincourt, the best man about Napoleon. In speaking of the French affairs in Africa, he said that Guizot's government was the cause of all the failure in that quarter, as well as in Spain. When Thiers was turned out by Louis Philippe, he was within fifteen days (Corbet said) of vanquishing Don Carlos, and the same event interrupted Clausel's operations in Africa.

In his view of Irish politics the Corbet of 1837 is, as might be expected, very different from him of 1798. Considering division to be a source of weakness to both countries, he is so far now from wishing to see Ireland severed from England that he considers their union in support of good government and free institutions to be essential, not only to their own well doing, but also most important, as an example to all Europe. Ought to have mentioned, with respect to Corbet's escape from Kilmainham, that he referred to the account given of it in Lady Morgan's *O'Brians* and *O'Flahertys*, as remarkably accurate in most of the particulars.

On our arrival at Bayeux found that the bishop was absent. Went to see the fine church. Were kept for a good while from seeing the Tapisserie in consequence of a *consiel* (some town meeting) being then sitting in the chamber where it is preserved. Admitted at last to the Tapisserie, and found it, like many other things in the world, better to be *imagined* than *seen*. The French engravings misrepresent it (on the favorable side) most extravagantly. Napoleon, when contemplating an invasion of England, had this tapestry brought to Paris and exhibited, in order to revive the recollections of the former successful descent; and it was even said, Corbet told me, that the Empress and her ladies were industriously practising embroidery in order to be able to complete the parallel. During our journey the thought struck me that I might turn the subject of the tapestry to account, in the way of poetry, with illustrations; and I told Corbet, that, if ever I should carry this thought into execution, it would be to him I should dedicate the work. This seemed to please him greatly.

4th. Went to the [Caen] Museum, where there is a Perugino, which struck me as good, and which, it seems, *ought* to have been sent back into Italy with the other restored plunder, but, by some accident, remained here. Was struck too by a picture of Malherbe. A little *bossu* poet, about half my own height, accompanied me around the rooms with much brotherly devotion. Had published, it appears, some *poésies* at Caen. Dined at Rothe's and went in the evening to drink tea at M. Bertrand's, where I had to go through a fresh round of introductions. In the course of the evening M. Bertrand was requested to recite some of his translations from the "Irish Melodies," and I had accordingly to stand the delivery of two of them; both author and translator being seated side by side on the sofa, and whenever any reference to *le barde* occurred, M. Bertrand would turn round with a profound bow to me, while I, with another profound bow, acknowledged the compliment. Not sorry when the *séance* was over; though seeing more and more reason to congratulate myself on my luck in locating Tom. * * *

7th. After a smooth passage of fourteen hours, arrived at Southampton. Walked about a little with Wilder, and, after breakfasting,

set off in the coach for Bath, where I dined most heartily and *Englishly* at the White Hart, and then proceeded in a fly to Sloper-ton, where I arrived between eight and nine in the evening.

23rd. An official letter from the Horse Guards, acquainting me, that, on my lodging the sum of 450*l.* in the hands of Cox, Greenwood, & Co., Lord Hill will submit my son's name to the Queen for the purchase of an ensigny in the 22nd Foot.

30th. Received the following letter from Lord Fitzroy:—"My dear Sir. I have communicated your letter of the 25th to Lord Hill, who desires me to say that he will give your son six months' leave of absence from the time of his being gazetted; but if you should think that insufficient, he considers that it would be better to decline the commission in the 22nd, with the understanding that your son is to be provided for as soon as he is ready. Probably, however, leave of six months is all you require. Very faithfully yours," &c., &c.

31st. * * * Looking back over the journal of my French tour, I find, in Buchon's note accompanying the letters of introduction he sent me, he says: "*Votre fils trouvera en France une large — d'affection; je vous assure ce n'est qu'une faible marque de la reconnaissance due aux nobles et poétiques inspirations de son père. Le nom de Moore s'est naturalisé Français, par l'admiration que nous avons non seulement pour ce qu'il a écrit, mais pour ce qu'il a voulu. Son caractère et son talent ont été adopté par nous, comme une gloire universelle. La langue est la forme, la pensée est le fond qui appartient aux hommes éminens de tous les pays. Votre admirateur et ami, S. A. C. BUCHON.*" * * *

August 2nd. Dined at Rogers's. Company: Lord and Lady Carlisle and daughter, M. and Madame Dedel, Falck, Luttrell and Landseer. Day very agreeable. Dedel and Falck both excellent, straightforward, and sensible men. A good deal of conversation with them on the state of France, the prospects of England, &c.

4th. Forgot to mention that Greville, two or three days ago, gave me a letter to his right-hand man at the Council Office (he himself being about to leave town), desiring him to put me in possession of his (G.'s) room for the purpose of looking over the Records; and at the same time gave me a letter also to Le-

mon, of the State Paper Office, desiring him to attend me whenever I should require it, and give me his assistance in my researches. This all very kind of Greville, and promptly and heartily done.

5th. Breakfasted with Rogers, to meet again the Americans. Conversation turned (curiously enough before the son of Hamilton, though none of us seemed to have thought of this at the time,) upon the prevalence of duelling in America; and Hamilton told some strange stories on the subject. * * * Mr. Hamilton said that there was no longer any doubt of his father's having been the writer of almost all Washington's addresses. Gave me an autograph letter of Washington's to his father, which tends a good deal to confirm this fact. Among the autographs he showed me were some of Jefferson's, and I was not displeased to see in them a frequency of my own trick of erasures and corrections. Jefferson always opposed to Washington; being always an advocate for French predominance in their councils. Went, all of us, with Rogers to see Stafford House, which evidently astonished the Americans (as it well might) by its richness and grandeur. They are just come from visiting all the great *palazzi* of the Continent, but it was plain had seen nothing like this. After we parted with them, turned in with Rogers for a few moments to the exhibition in Pall Mall, and took a passing glance at some of the fine things there.

7th. Breakfasted at home, and was at the Council Office by ten, where I was joined soon after by Mr. Lemon. Looked over the indexes of the papers with him, and found him in every respect the man for my purpose; being not only versed in the subject, but also most readily disposed to assist me in any way most useful to me. Explained to him how I was situated with respect to my History, being now more than ever aware that in less than two volumes more I should not be able to do justice to my subject, and yet from the inadequate pay I receive for my labour (compared with what I should make by employing myself otherwise), being unwilling to expend so much of my time unprofitably. He remarked that nothing, unluckily, was more common than to see historical works which had been commenced and continued to a certain extent with most exemplary carefulness, then begin to show signs of

relaxation and haste, and at last hurry on to the end in the most careless and clumsy manner. Gave, as an instance, Turner's "History of Henry the Eighth," in which a small part of Henry's reign occupies the great bulk of the work, while the remainder is dispatched in a few pages. Must see how far this is the case.

* * * * *

8th. Breakfasted with Rogers, to meet a Frenchman of the name of W. B. His grandfather, I believe, was English, but he himself cannot speak a word of English. Found him alone when I arrived, and in the course of conversation he guessed (from my portraits, as he said) who I was. During breakfast arrived Count Krasinski, an intelligent Polish refugee, and man of letters. Told me how familiarly all my works were known in Poland; particularly the "Irish Melodies." The great favourite amongst his countrymen was, "Oh blame not the bard;" and he himself was acquainted with a young poet who always made use of the authority of this ode when reproached with being an idle fellow. Remarkd that there was a strong similarity between the Poles and the Irish; and mentioned, as an instance of this, a countryman of his, who having, on some occasion, knocked a man down for being, as he thought, insolent to him, was expostulated with for having done so, by some friend, who remarked that, after all, what the man had said to him was not very offensive. "No, it was not," answered the other; "but still it was safer to knock him down." The Fire Worshippers, he told me, had been translated in Poland in a *Polish sense*; and there was also, he said, a Russian translation of that poem.

Dined with Rogers to go to the Opera. Party at dinner: Wordsworth and Miss Rogers. A good deal from Wordsworth about his continental tour. In talking of travelling in England, said that he used always to travel on the top of the coach, and still prefers it. Has got at different times subjects for poems by travelling thus. A story he has told in verse (which I have never seen) of two brothers parting on the top of a hill (to go to different regions of the globe), and walking silently down the opposite sides of the hill, was, he said, communicated to him by a fellow traveller outside a coach. Also another story

about a peat hill which had been preserved with great care, by a fond father, after the death of the youth who had heaped it up. Must look for these stories in his poems. On my mentioning that I had met with a young man at a *café* in Paris who had seen him (Wordsworth) in Italy, he asked me who he was, and on my answering that I did not know his name, and it appeared he had merely *seen* Wordsworth, the sublime Laker replied, "Oh, *Virgilium tantum vidi*," but immediately conscious of the assumption of the speech, turned it off with a laugh.

10th. Dinner at Rogers's. Almost over when I arrived. Company: Wordsworth, Landseer, Taylor, and Miss R. A good deal of talk about Campbell's poetry, which they were all much disposed to carp at and depreciate, more particularly Wordsworth. I remarked that Campbell's lesser poems, his sea odes, &c., bid far more fair, I thought, for immortality than almost any of the lyrics of the present day; on which they all began to pick holes in some of the most beautiful of these things. "Every sod beneath their feet shall be a soldier's sepulchre."* A *sod* being a sepulchre! (this, perhaps, is open to objection.) The "meteor flag braving the battle and the breeze," another of the things they objected to. Then his "angels' visits, few and far between," was borrowed from Blair, who says:—

"Or, if it did, its visits,
Like those of angels, short and far between."

Taylor remarked that "The coming events cast their shadows before" was also borrowed, but did not so well make out his case. "Iberian were his boots," another of the blots they hit: altogether very perverse industry.

To the Opera, all except Wordsworth. The Gazzza Ladra—charming notwithstanding that a stick was substituted for Rubini. In talking of letter-writing this evening, and referring to what Tucker has told of Jefferson's sacrifice of his time to correspondence, Taylor again mentioned the habits of Southey in this respect, and Wordsworth said that, for his own part, such was his horror of having his letters *preserved*, that in order to guard against it, he always took pains to make them as bad and dull as possible.

* I have heard that the word was originally "Cemetery."
—J. R.

12th. Rogers showed me some verses of his own upon youth, the last, he said, he had ever written or should write. Said he could cry over them all day, and was very near bursting into tears while he spoke. Part of the feeling in them consists in sadly anticipating all that youth has before it in life, of wrong as well as of suffering; of wrong that will be regretted in after days.

September 2nd to 4th. Received a note from Lord Holland, announcing that his present of Bayle was on its way down by the waggon. The note was accompanied by an amusing string of rhymes full of fun and pun, *à la Swift*; and the next day's post brought me what he calls *Editio auctior et emendatior* of the same, which I shall here transcribe.

"DEAR MOORE,—

Neither poet nor scholar can fail
To be pleased with the critic I send you,—'tis Bayle.
At leisure, or working, in sickness, or hale,
One can ever find something to suit one in Bayle.
Would you argue with fools who your verses assail?
Why here's logic and learning supplied you by Bayle.
Indeed as a merchant would speak of a sale,
Of the *articles* asked for, I forward a *Bayle*.*
But should you, in your turn, have a fancy to rail,
Let me tell you there's store of good blackguard in Bayle:
And although they for libel might throw you in jail,
Pray what would release you so quickly as *Bayle*? †
Your muse has a knack at an amorous tale,—
Do you want one to versify? turn to your Bayle.
Nay, more—when at sea, in a boisterous gale
I'll make you acknowledge there's service in Bayle;
For, if water be filling the boat where you sail,
I'll be bound you'll cry lustily, 'bail, my lads, *Bayle*.' ‡
A mere correspondent may trust to the mail,
But your true *man of letters* relies on his Bayle.
So much knowledge in wholesale, and wit in retail,
(Tho' you've plenty already) greet kindly in Bayle.
"Holland House, 3rd Sept."

9th & 10th. Perceive, on looking back, that while I have noted down trivial and ordinary occurrences, I have made no memorandum of a loss which will be long felt at Sloperton—the death of poor Fielding, one of our kindest and most amiable friends. His sufferings were so long and so hopeless, that his death, at last, (Sept. 2.) came as a relief both to himself and to all who felt for him. Received a letter from Talbot, informing me that the funeral is to take place next Friday, and that Lord Valletort and George Montgomerie are to attend. Wrote to him to ask whether it would be agreeable that I should also come.

11th. A letter from Talbot, saying that he

is sure it would gratify Lady Elizabeth if I also would attend the funeral.

15th. Drove in the pony carriage to Lacock, twelve being the hour appointed for the funeral. Found there the persons I have already mentioned, and also one of the Audreys. The whole ceremony most painful, though the form and manner of it were as simple and as worthy of the man as could be desired. We followed the coffin on foot through the pleasure-grounds and the garden (which were then looking in their highest beauty) without any crowd of gazers to disturb or distract us; and the funeral service was read touchingly and impressively by Paley. It was poor Fielding's wish (expressed some years ago, it seems,) that his coffin should be made of the oak of an old man-of-war; and Talbot, on applying to the Admiralty, got some of the same wood of which Nelson's coffin was made. After luncheon walked home, Talbot and Montgomerie accompanying me a great part of the way. Besides the loss of poor Fielding, I have had some other losses lately, not touching me near so closely, but which, combined with his, comprise all that is meant by events that "come home to the *business* and *bosoms* of men;" for while he came under the latter description, my good old partner of the Row, Rees, who has also died lately, may be classed among those *business* ties, the breaking of which by death cannot but be felt solemnly, if not deeply. Poor young Maerone, too, whose death, however, did not take me by surprise, as I saw, when I last parted from him, that he was not long for this world.

16th. * * * It was mentioned by Joy that Sir William Scott, to save the legacy duty, made over the 20,000*l.* he intended for his son William during his life-time; but William, who died before his father, made a will, leaving this sum back again, so that Sir William did not escape the duty after all. And now a question has arisen out of this complex transaction, whether Lady Sidmouth (to whom the sum was bequeathed by Sir William) can establish her claim to it; adding one more instance to the many already extant, of great lawyers committing blunders in the management of their own legal affairs. Sir William, who placed this money in the Three per cents., used to congratulate himself "on escaping,"

* *Aliter*, tale. † *Aliter*, bail. ‡ *Aliter etiam*, bail.

as he said, "from the perplexities of land to the pure Three per cents."

17th. Took a long walk with Lord L. and the Codringtons. In the course of conversation, Milman asked how happened it that the Irish, after having produced such pure writers of English as Swift and Goldsmith, should have broken out into the peculiar style now known by the designation of "Irish?" Something called my attention away, or I should have asked him why he left out such additional examples as Bishop Berkeley, Burke, and Sheridan? Milman mentioned having heard one of Goethe's tragedies performed with a chorus in the ancient manner: said that the effect was good. Asked him if it was like a chaunt; he said, "Somewhat, but more monotonous." Attended prayers, Milman doing the duty.

24th. Bentley and Moran to breakfast. Bentley full of impatience and ardour for something of mine to publish,—a light Eastern tale, in three volumes. Scene, Circassia; events, founded on the struggle of that people against Russia, and price 1500*l.*, with two-thirds of the copyright my own. After we had lunched I walked them over to Spye Park, the day being delicious. Bentley had now started on another scent — the edition of my poetical works, which, after telling him the difficulties that at present beset the plan, I confessed to him was one I had so much at heart, that *whoever* would enable me to accomplish it should have my best wishes and co-operation, even though I myself should not gain a penny by it. I then told him the state of my poetical copyrights; "Lalla Rookh" and "The Melodies" being in the hands respectively of the Longmans and Mrs. Power, and the rest all my own, those of Carpenter having now returned to me. Was amused with the sanguineness with which, on hearing this (not having before known that so much of the property was my own), he seemed to consider the whole thing as settled, or, at least, settle-able without any difficulty. He would see Mrs. Power and the Longmans on the subject, and had little doubt of bringing them round to his terms. Told him (while doubtfully shaking my head at all this confidence of his) how sanguine I had always found men of business in such matters; and that, in fact, I had constantly, in my dealings with them,

been obliged to take the business line, and to repress as much as I could their "gay soarings." On more than one occasion have I endeavoured to keep the Longmans within bounds, as to the number of copies in an edition, when the event has proved that *I* was right, not they. The imaginations, indeed, of some of your *matter-of-fact* men (as they are called) beat those of us poets hollow.

October 12th. A visit from Lord John, who arrived yesterday at Bowood, and walked over to see Bessy this morning. Sat with us for some time, and then he and I sauntered on together to Bowood, where I had promised to dine to meet him and Lord Melbourne. Nobody at dinner but Lord Melbourne, the John Russells, and a young Lady Strangeways, very pretty. In talking of Chateaubriand, and of his having got deaf lately, Lord Lansdowne quoted Talleyrand's saying of him that "*Il se croit sourd parcequ'il n'entend plus parler de lui.*" In talking of Windsor, Lady Lansdowne objected to the number of dirty houses that come up quite close to the Castle. This Lord John said he liked; it was feudal, and he preferred it much to the insulation of the great houses of the present day. Was at first inclined to agree with him, but on recollecting the dependence implied by this juxtaposition of the great and small, retracted my concurrence, and was all for the stand-off system of Lady Lansdowne; each rank in its own station. To be sure, it might have been retorted upon me, that my own social position is little better than a hut placed cheek by jowl with palaces; and not a bad neighbourhood either, do I find it.

16th. A note from Lady Elizabeth to Bessy, saying how much good she had done her, and begging of her to come again to Lacock during my absence at Bowood. Poor Bessy, rather fearing a repetition of the painful scene of Saturday, but still felt that she could not refuse, and promised to come to-morrow. To Bowood to dinner; the party increased by the addition of Lord Suffolk and his daughter, Lord Glenelg, Sydney Smith, and the Rogerses.—Much amusement excited by the article in "The Spectator" newspaper about the "conclave" assembled at Bowood. "At the Bowood meeting of Ministers," says the journalist, "it is not credible that any consideration of what is due to the people of England, of what

they require and deserve, will clash for an instant with the main object of securing office for as many Whig lords and gentlemen as possible." Had this *sour-croul* politician been present at our dinner party, he would have seen that *one* main object of Ministers was certainly laughter and good cheer; and that while the Bowood cook took care of this latter branch of policy, Sydney Smith administered amply to the other. Talking of proverbs after dinner, Lord John mentioned his own definition of a proverb: "The wit of one, the wisdom of many," which Mackintosh (I think he said) quoted in one of his works. Sydney, speaking of Mackintosh and his "Memoirs," remarked on the proof they afforded of his having been so very honest a politician; the more striking, certainly, as there was always a sort of tarnish on his name, in this respect, which was a good deal perpetuated by Parr's antithetical contrast between him and Quigley, addressed, it is said, to Mackintosh himself, on his saying something in disparagement of Quigley.

17th. Bowles came after breakfast, more odd and ridiculous than ever. His delight at having been visited yesterday by the Prime Minister and Secretary of State, Lord L. having taken them both to Bremhill. The foolish fellow had left his trumpet at home, so that we could hardly make him hear, or, indeed, do anything with him but laugh. Even when he has his trumpet, he always keeps it to his ear while he is talking himself, and then takes it down when any one else begins to talk. To-day he was putting his mouth close to my ear, and bellowing away as if I was the deaf man, not he. We all pressed him to stay to dinner, but in vain; and one of his excuses was, "No, not indeed, I cannot; I must go back to Mrs. Moore." Rogers very amusing afterwards about this mistake. "It was plain," he said, "where Bowles had been all this time; taking advantage of Moore's absence," &c. &c.

18th. Joined Rogers and Sydney in a walk before breakfast. Sydney said to me "There are two points in the character of our noble host which, I think, must strike every one who knows him, and none more than yourself. One is, the patriotic feeling with which, neither wanting nor liking office (for whatever he might have done formerly he certainly does

not like it now), he yet takes upon himself its trammels for the public service; and the other is, the gentlemanlike spirit and courtesy which unvaryingly pervades his whole manner and conduct, never swerving a single instant from the most perfect good-breeding and good-nature." To this tribute I most heartily subscribed after an acquaintance with the subject of it more than thirty years, and a close intimacy of more than twenty.

After breakfast set off to return home, and Rogers accompanied me. Nothing could be more agreeable and amiable than he was. In talking of his age (he is now some months turned seventy-five), he said, "If I was asked what ailment I have, I really could not say that I have any;" and yet, so delicate was his health up to the age of between thirty and forty that it was difficult to keep him alive. We walked up and down between the Sandy Lane Gate and the Calne Road three or four times, I still turning back with him, and he then retreading his steps with me. In the course of our walk he said, "You know Mrs. Moore is my almoner." I anticipated what was coming, and both for Bessy's sake and the people's rejoiced in my heart. He then took out of his pocket five sovereigns and gave them to me for the poor of Bromham. One of my embarrassments, indeed, during his visit has been the fear lest Bessy should thank him for the five pounds I brought her in his name, for the same purpose, two or three years since. But I had taken an opportunity of warning her against doing so, saying that it would look like asking for more. I now told him the circumstance of my having imposed upon her, as just stated, not saying, however, that it was in his name I had done so. I need not say how great was Bessy's pleasure on my producing this new fund for her old women.

22nd. Read a story of Lover's for the party in the evening.

November 1st to 30th. At work busily, and with but few interruptions; none, indeed, except a visit now and then from young Henry Fitzmaurice, who is, I rejoice to say improving in his looks. As I generally read for twenty minutes or half an hour after I go to bed (always something different from the task I have been employed upon during the day, in order to get that out of my head), I have taken lately as my night dose a dry book on ethics,

by I know not who, in answer to Mackintosh, which Brabant lent me; and here I discover the source of Brabant's low opinion of Mackintosh. It does, to be sure, take the shine out of Mac's ethics prodigiously, and the instances of confusion of thought, and even of ignorance, which he cites from Mac's book, are some of them astounding. Cannot help making a memorandum here of one (indeed the most glaring) of the proofs brought by him of Mackintosh's marvellous ignorance (marvellous in him), or, what is much more likely to have been the truth of the case, excessive carelessness. Leibnitz, in a familiar letter to a friend, gives a short account of a book which had just appeared, "*De Principio Juris Naturalis*," and after mentioning several other things discussed in the book, he says, "*Queritur deinde utrum custodia societatis humane sit principium juris*," and adds, "*Id negat vir egregius* (the author) *contra Grotium, qui societatem, Hobbesium, qui mutuum metum, Cumberlandium et similes, qui mutuum benevolentiam, id est, semper societatem, adhibent*." In other words, the author of whom Leibnitz is giving an account inquires, "What is the origin or *principium* of Law? and decides that it is not, as Grotius, Hobbes, and Cumberland have supposed, a regard to the conservation or guardianship of human society, but simply, as he subsequently endeavours to prove, the Will of the Creator;—'*Jussum Creatoris*.'" In ranging, too, on the same side of the question, Grotius, Hobbes, and Cumberland, this author shows that he considers all their several opinions on the subject to be resolvable into one and the same, namely, that a regard to the safety and conservation of *society* is the origin of human law. (I have put clearly, I flatter myself, in the foregoing few lines what it has cost the castigator of Mackintosh more than half-a-dozen pages to explain.) This being the state of the case, let us now observe how Sir James, with much pomp and plausibility, disserts upon the subject. Having given it as his opinion that preceding inquirers had not been very clear in their theories of morals, he proceeds as follows:—"It is little wonder that Cumberland should not have disembroiled this ancient and established confusion, since Leibnitz himself, in a passage where *he reviews the theories of morals* which had gone before him,

has done his utmost to perpetuate it. 'It is a question,' says he, 'whether the preservation of human society be the first principle of the *law of nature*.' This our author * denies, in opposition to Grotius, who laid down sociability to be so, to Hobbes, who ascribed that character to mutual fear, and to Cumberland, who held that it was mutual benevolence; which are all three only different names for the safety and welfare of society." "Here the great philosopher," continues Mackintosh, "considered benevolence, or fear, two feelings of the human mind, to be the first principles of the *law of nature*,† in the same sense in which the tendency of certain actions to the well-being of the community may be so regarded. The confusion, however, was then common to him with many, as it even now is with most. The comprehensive view was his own." The confusion and inaccuracy crowded into this short paragraph of Mackintosh's is really astounding. It requires but the merest school-boy's power of construing to see that the proposition which Mac ascribes to Leibnitz is, that of the author on whose book Leibnitz is making remarks; and, not content with this blunder, Mackintosh misrepresents also the author of the book, making him say that Grotius and Hobbes considered benevolence and fear to be the first principles of the law of nature; whereas this author was not speaking of the law of nature at all, but of the "*principium juris*." I could not help endeavouring to bring this exposure into a somewhat more concise and intelligible form than has been done by Mac's *Mastix* himself, who is, however, a very clever clear-headed fellow, and withal, a very disagreeable one. Indeed, so much so, that I would almost rather be *wrong* with Mackintosh, *cum Platone errare*, than be *right* with so harsh and conceited a dogmatist.

November 1st to 3rd. Hard at work at "The Reign of Edward II." Forgot whether I have mentioned before that the Record Commission have (as in duty bound) sent me all their published volumes. Have got down as many as are *immediately* necessary to me, and hardly know how to dispose even of these; my study being already overloaded with

* Meaning Leibnitz.

† "The italics are my own, in order to mark his mistakes more emphatically."—M.

learned rubbish, of various kinds, and the floor not being very trustworthy. Have also got down a number of gigantic books from the Longmans; so that, what with Rymer, Palgrave's Parliamentary Writs, &c. &c., poor Sloperton will, I fear, hardly hold out. A good number are stowed away in the hall, with Bessy's club things for her *old* women; and very fit companions they are for each other.

14th to 17th. No change or novelty in my mode of existence; still the same still-life picture. It is some comfort, however, to find that, while so quiet at home, one has still the capability of kicking up a row abroad. Witness the "turn-up" I was the cause of the other night (the 21st) in the House of Commons. The subject of debate was the Pension List; and the best mode of recording what took place is to insert here the scrap from "The Times" report of the debate:—

"An hon. member (name unknown, but with a strong Irish accent) rose to ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer a question. He wished to know whether the name of one Thomas Moore was in the list of pensions charged on the Civil List ('Oh, oh!'); and, if so, whether it was placed there for making luscious ballads for love-sick maidens, or for writing lampoons upon George IV. of blessed memory. (Cries of 'Oh, oh!' and great confusion in the house.)

"*Mr. Spring Rice*—I am confident that the house, and I am equally persuaded that the public, will appreciate the motives which induced the Government to place the name of Thomas Moore on the Pension List. (Loud cheers from both sides of the house.) By a formal resolution of this house, the Ministers of the day are authorised to grant these pensions as the reward of distinguished talent in literature and the arts. From the tones of his voice, I suspect that the hon. member who has just put to me this extraordinary question belongs to the same country with myself ('Hear,' and a laugh). I believe that there is no other Irishman but himself in this house—differing, as many of them do, from the political opinions of Thomas Moore—who does not feel it to be a credit to our common country that the name of 'one Thomas Moore' is on the Pension List. (Immense cheering.) For my own part, I think that the name of Thomas

Moore is in itself a credit to the Pension List. (General cheering.) I may ask, and, I hope, without offence,—whether it was for writing works of a very democratic character and tendency that the name of Dr. Robert Southey is placed on the same Pension List with that of Thomas Moore? The names of both those distinguished men are on that List, and are on it for the same reasons (cheers); and I rejoice as heartily in seeing the name of Southey there as I do in seeing the name of Moore (cheers continued). Both are men of great and immortal talent. Both have added to the literary pleasures and instruction of their age and country, (vociferous cries of 'Hear!'); and I rejoice that both of them have received, though from rival administrations, the rewards to which they are both so fully and so justly entitled." (Cheering from all quarters of the House.)

In reference to the above the London "Standard" has the following:—

"We observed with regret that a gentleman—we doubt not with the best disposition—complained of Mr. Moore's pension. Mr. Moore's pension is a tribute to genius—a testimony to the claims of one who, if not the first living poet, is certainly not second to any with whom the present generation has lived. With Scott and Southey Mr. Moore completes the number of the first-class British poets of the nineteenth century, and it is idle to under-rate the merit of his poetry, because of the direction taken by his genius, as was the miserable effort to depreciate Scott on account of the lowness of the pursuits of his borderers. That Mr. Moore has been a political writer, as well as a poet, ought to be the last reason for objecting to the reward of his *political* (?) merits in a free country. Alas! for the freedom of Great Britain, when a divorce shall be effected between literature and politics,—when men of genius or learning shall find it injurious to come forward in all their power, and, according to their conscientious views, in defence of that constitution which is the business of every Briton. The democratical changes that we have lately made are bringing the empire, indeed, rapidly enough under the dominion of brute ignorance. Let us not accelerate the calamity by interdicting the arena of politics to genius and knowledge.—Mr. Moore has taken the wrong side; but

this matters nothing: we are contending for a principle,—a principle in which Conservatives are much more deeply interested, as a party, than any other party can be. Of the party that seeks to establish the ascendancy of truth and justice, literature is the natural ally. It is gratifying to us to be able to add that, his political bias apart, there is nothing in Mr. Moore's character—amiable, and honourable, and consistent as it is,—which ought to exclude him from the benefit of the principle for which we contend.”

December 1st to 12th. Still confined to my study and garden, and, as long as I have health, not desiring any thing better. An agreeable announcement, in a letter from Mrs. Napier to Bessy, of the approaching marriage of one of her daughters to Lord Arran. The whole of the details promise most prosperously, and I rejoice at it sincerely.

14th. Looked again over the curious “Diary of Sir Edward Bayntun,” which Salmon has in his possession. There are several volumes of it, and a curious selection might be made from their contents. Took down the following memorandums for the year 1754, just after Pelham's death, when a new administration was about to be formed.

“March, 1754. Went to the Smyrna.—Thence to Lady Northumberland's: her house the resort of distressed lovers; and herself so compassionate as to neglect nothing for their general relief.

“Do. To Leicester House. Great appearance of faction. Boone said, if Mr. Fox was Chancellor of the Exchequer, it would not be borne: what must become of this poor woman and the children; that old friends must stand together. Thence to Lord Winchelsea to dinner. Had much of his confidence touching the new schemes; would join the Duke of Newcastle; anything to obstruct Sandwich and the Duke of Bedford, which must be the consequence; that Murray had been ruined by malice, and that there was difference in drinking the ‘P.’s’ [*qu.* Pretender's] health with Tosset or at Oxford. Complained of Lord Granville.—viii o'clock. To White's and Lord Granville. Curious to know where I had been.

“March 15. Went to Mr. Fox, who told me he had refused to accept being the Secretary of State; that he had accepted it according to the message delivered by Lord Hartington;

notwithstanding that he was to manage business in the House of Commons under the Duke of Newcastle. For more certainty how his Grace understood it, he had waited upon him; and found, upon his proposing some questions of explanation, that he was not to be the channel between his Grace and the divers applications arising in the House of Commons; that his Grace even refused to permit him to inquire into the plan left by Mr. Pelham till his Grace and Dafflin had adjusted it. That he conceived his being employed in a business he did not understand, and secluded from one he did, was a plain project to ruin him, and he rather chose to fall in the station he was [*qu.* in]; that he could be of no sort of use without this countenance. * * *

xii. To Lord Granville, who was waiting for Mr. Stone. I told him what Mr. Fox had said, by his direction. My Lord seemed surprised, and said he had heard nothing from the Duke of Newcastle. He feared they would trifle in this manner, &c. &c.

“March 17. The Duke of Grafton in opposition to the Duke of Newcastle. The Duke of Devonshire inflamed by H. Walpole; the scene deeper laid than appears. Thence to Mr. Fox's: did not stay to see him. To Lord Winchelsea, who discovers expectation from these difficulties. The Duke of Newcastle shows evident marks of fear: this confirmed by Gen. Lake.”

16th to 18th. At work. Sent one of these days a short answer to Rice's circular on the subject of the Pension List, which I concluded by saying that my pension had been given to me without any solicitation on my part, and would be surrendered by me without a murmur should the Committee think right to withdraw it.

19th to 23rd. Some correspondence with the Longmans respecting our projected edition of the works. Mrs. Power has asked 1000*l.* for the right of publishing the poetry of which she holds the copyright. This the Longmans think excessive; and so it probably is; but my dear, generous, and just-minded Bessy thinks otherwise; and (though she knows a large outlay in that quarter must necessarily trench upon *my* share of the emoluments) hopes most earnestly that Mrs. Power will, for the sake of her family, refuse to take any less. A “rare bird” is Bess in more ways than one.

1838.

JANUARY 9th. To Bowood to dinner: company, the Phippses, Joys, and Youngs, Miss Fox, and the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland. In the evening, the Duchess having expressed a strong wish that I should sing, I sat down, and began, unluckily, with "There's a song of the olden time," which I had not sung before for a long time; and the state of my spirits not being very good, the melancholy both of the song and of my own voice affected me so much, that before I had sung the two first lines I broke out into one of those hysterical fits of sobbing, which must be as painful to others as they are to myself, and was obliged to hurry away into the next room, whither I was immediately followed both by Lord and Lady Lansdowne, and Henry Fitzmaurice. The exceeding effort I made to suppress the sobbing only made it break out more audibly; and, altogether, nothing could be more disagreeable, the company that witnessed the scene being, unluckily, larger and more miscellaneous than is usual at Bowood. Having drunk off a tumbler of sal-volatile and water, which Lady Lansdowne brought me, I returned to the drawing-room; and after laughing a little at my own exhibition, sat down again to the piano-forte, and sung through all the gayest of my songs that I could call to remembrance.

27th. My poor Bess, whose state of weakness for some time past gives me many a painful boding (though I trust in God without any real grounds), not finding herself well enough to go to Lacock, Tom and I set off thither in the pony carriage at three, leaving the Hugheses to keep Bessy company. None but the Talbots, Lady E., and Horatia, at dinner. Lady E. much better than I could have expected to find her. Found it very agreeable, though inwardly sad the whole time. Poor Fielding seldom absent from my thoughts. In the evening Horatia played over several beautiful things from Bellini, Strauss, &c., while I sat in a corner and listened in silent sadness.

28th. After luncheon, Tom and I started in the pony carriage for home; and when at the top of Bowden Hill, I got out and walked through the fields home. Brought a note

from Lady Elizabeth to Bessy, which I shall here copy:—

"My dear Mrs. Moore,—I cannot tell you how very much disappointed I was at your not coming yesterday, nor how grieved I am for the cause. You are always most soothing to me; and I am sorry the weather and the winter put a sort of gulph between us. You particularly know how to 'minister to a mind diseased.' I am glad to have seen Mr. Moore, whom I consider (that rare thing) a sincere friend both for the present and the past. His voice reminded me but too much of the gay days of the Abbey. Happy days. They can never return. How often have I thought formerly that it was a mistake calling this world a vale of tears, a thorny path, &c. &c. I always found it such an agreeable world, and so pleasant to live. I suppose nobody believes those truths till they feel them in their own person. God bless you. E. F.—Let me hear soon by the post how you are. We are all anxious about you." * * *

Feb. 7th. Dined at Lord Essex's. Boldero and Co., as usual, with the agreeable addition, on this occasion, of Sir Robert Adair, from whom one gets, now and then, an agreeable *whiff* of the days of Fox, Tickell, and Sheridan. Told one or two things of that date, which I had known before, but which came from him with the stamp of the time upon them, and were, in so far, more interesting than even better *new* things.

[On the 10th of this month, Moore met Mr. Luttrell, at breakfast, at Mr. Rogers's.] * * * Talked of Irishmen's unwillingness to pay ready money, their notions of the *ready* being always a bill at sixty-one days' date. Somebody saying that one would think every Irishman was born sixty-one days too late, from their being always that space of time behind the rest of the world; and Luttrell described the process of purchasing a horse between one Irish gentleman and another: "Price sixty pounds, for which you have no occasion to pay down cash—only *commit your thoughts to paper*."

[During the month of February, Moore's attention was much taken up by his son Tom's preparations to join his regiment, and begin his career in life. About the 22nd he left Bristol for Cork. The stormy weather which followed his departure gave cause for fresh

anxieties to his fond parents. He arrived safely at Cork. A dangerous illness of Mrs. Moore, immediately afterwards, was the cause of new fears. She happily recovered, owing to the attention and skill of her physicians.]

March 5th. Brabant with us early (and Kenrick also, whom he had thought it right to ask to meet him, but who did not see her); and though he gave his opinion with a degree of reserve and caution, which in itself was like a dagger to me, I was but too happy to collect from him that if there was no return of the hæmorrhage, no danger need be apprehended. My dearest Bessy herself had preserved throughout all our alarm the same collectedness and sweetness of feeling which she has shown on every trying occasion since I first knew her, thinking of everybody but self.

6th to 8th. Thank God, all has been going on well, and will, I trust in God, continue so. On the morning after her attack, Bessy mentioned a pretty story, translated by Miss Fisher from the German, of an old man who received three calls or warnings before his death. "I look upon this," she added calmly, "as my *first*." But, thank God again and again, the danger now seems past.

9th to 11th. Between my continual and anxious watching of my dear Bessy's progress (for such I flatter myself it is), and my efforts to work, for which I have now more than usual need, from my late expenditure both of time and money, I have not had a moment to give to these pages. In default of other matter, I shall here transcribe from a late publication (or rather re-re-publication of Bowles's) a note respecting myself, which, in his usual good-natured sensitiveness, he has thought it necessary to insert. What the passage about "The Sorcerer Poet" was to which he refers, I have not the slightest notion.

"Sorcerer Poet.—I trust it will not be thought necessary by one human being for me to disclaim any the most distant allusion to one consummate master of song, who, if in the unthinking gaiety of premature genius, he joined the Syrens, has made ample amends by a life of the strictest virtuous propriety, equally exemplary as the husband, the father, and the man; and, as far as the Muse is concerned, more than ample amends by melodies as sweet as scriptural and sacred, and by weav-

ing a tale indeed of the richest Oriental colours, which faithful affection and pity's tear have consecrated to all ages."

12th to 31st. Nothing much different to add on the subject that now occupies all my cares and thoughts—my dearest Bessy's health. The prospect of losing the advantage of Brabant's attendance, by his approaching departure for the Continent, gives me a great deal of uneasiness, though *he* looks upon her as past all danger now, and means to leave written instructions for her how to act in case any change should occur. Went to dine one of these days with the Hugheses at Devizes, who were anxious to have me to meet their member, Dundas. Returned home at night. Nothing could be more gratifying than the anxiety manifested in all quarters, both high and low, about poor Bessy's health. Every two or three days a messenger comes from Bowood, with a supply of ice, vegetables, and such other things as it is known Bessy has been ordered to take.

April 1st to 3rd. Still the same course of life, watching over my dear Bessy's progress—slow, but I trust sure—and working in the intervals at my "History." Sent a squib one of these days to "The Chronicle"—"Sketch of the First Act of a new Romantic Drama," which Easthope, in a note which I had from him, told me was very much admired. In the same note he added (what I had suspected myself, and mentioned to him) that my former squib on the Ballot, "The Song of the Box," had not produced much effect. Found one of these mornings some memorandums of my own in pencilling, so very nearly effaced, that I think I had better copy out whatever is worth preserving of them here. They relate, I see, chiefly to Petrarch, and must have been collected, I think, for a comparison between him and Catullus, which I took as one of my subjects while writing for "The Metropolitan," but made little use of, I believe, in the hasty sketch I gave to that periodical. * * * The Cynthia of Propertius was accomplished, and a poetess. Petrarch's triflings about the *laurel*. For Laura's coquetry, see sonetti 31. 39, 40, 41., canzon. 15.; and particularly sonetto 43., where he describes himself baffled when just within reach of his object—*Trà la spiza e la man quel muro è messo*. See sonetto 50., where he complains

that he was tired of loving her, at the end of ten years. The pretty scene in sonetto 207., the old man giving the two roses. The beautiful picture in sonetto 189., *Dodici donne*, &c. Her pretty action in sonetto 219., in putting her hand before his eyes when she sees him in a reverie gazing at her. The three celebrated canzonis which he himself called "The Three Sisters," 18, 19, and 20. The canzonis after her death, allowed to have more truth and nature in them than those before. *Levomi il mio pensiero*—sonetto 261. See this for her veil, which she says she had left on earth. See for his trifling decomposition of the name of Laura or Laureta into three parts—sonetto 5. In his dialogues, *De Contemptu Mundi*, he says, "*Scio autem quid hæc mihi solatii est quod illa mecum senescit.*" The "Evêque de Lombaz" wrote to Petrarch rallying, that all his love for Laura was a mere fiction—"De hæc autem spirante Laureta cujus forma captus videor, manufacta est, et omnia ficta carmina, ficta suspiria." See "Académie des Inscriptions," tom. 15.

4th to 6th. Agreeable accounts from Tom from Ireland. His regiment ordered to Dublin, which will be very delightful to Ellen, and make a great difference in point of society to himself. Received one of these days the following note from Spring Rice, relative to the Pension List Committee :

"My dear Moore,—Though you could not have anticipated any other result, still, as committees are strange and unaccountable bodies, I think it may be agreeable to you to know that your case came on yesterday, and was by acclamation confirmed. I think the Committee would have increased the grant, had it been in their power to do so.

Always, my dear Moore,

Very sincerely and faithfully yours,

T. S. RICE."

May 1st to 4th. Received a letter from Haydon the painter, written, it appears, a year since, but mislaid, and only just now, as he tells me, found again, containing an account of three letters relating to Sheridan, which had been brought for his inspection. Wrote to thank him, saying, that any communication from his hand was better late than never ; that I had written so much and on such various sub-

jects since Sheridan was my topic, that I had now almost forgotten all about him : adding, that what some poet has said of the waves of the sea, —

"And one no sooner kiss'd the shore and died
Than a new follower rose, —"

was but too applicable to the multifarious succession of my works, — the "dying," I feared, included. *Apropos* of Sheridan, I see by an extract from the "Diary" of Wilberforce just published, that he says I overrate Sheridan's powers as a wit. This may be so ; but I think it rather more likely that Wilberforce underrated him. My opinion was derived, not so much from my own knowledge of Sheridan, for he was gone off when I knew him, but from the indestructible proofs of his wit in the *School for Scandal* and the *Critic* ; and the unanimous tribute paid to it by all his own personal friends.

Sent another squib one of these days to "The Morning Chronicle," in reference to the Copyright Question, entitled "Great Dinner of Type and Co. : a Poor Poet's Dream," which has been copied, I see, into the "Athenæum," and placed side by side with the letter of Wordsworth, and the famous one of Southey's to Brougham, as our joint protests against the present state of Copyright. To my squib they merely annex asterisks, saying that it requires no signature. Have fixed my projected visit to town for the 17th. Wrote to Lady Elizabeth (who was so kind when we last met as to offer me lodging at Sackville Street,) asking whether she is still in the same mind, and received the following answer : — "Only a moment to say, I shall be so pleased to have you in *casa mia*. I am not such a *capricieuse* as to have changed my mind since I saw you at Sloperon, and Mrs. Moore looking so well and handsome in her reclining attitude in the *fauteuil*. Who is Mr. Calvert, who talks in such rapture about you ? It was agreeable to read his enthusiastic opinions in these prosaic and utilitarian days. Love to Bessie."

5th to 13th. On my explaining to Bessy, at breakfast one of these mornings, the nature of the retrospective clause in the intended Copyright Bill (which I had but just come to understand myself, not having troubled my head much with the question), she exclaimed,

with that directness of aim at the true and the just, which, in her, is innate, "Why, that's not honest." Having to write to the Longmans the same day, I mentioned this circumstance just as I have here stated it, adding, "As for me, I, of course, shook my head and said nothing, being an author."

19th. In London. Breakfasted with Rogers to meet Ratcliffe, and Young the actor. Story of the Lady who wrote to Talleyrand informing him, in high-flown terms of grief, of the death of her husband, and expecting an eloquent letter of condolence in return; his answer only "Hélas, Madame. Votre affectionné, &c., Talleyrand." In less than a year, another letter from the same lady, informed him of her having married again; to which he returned an answer in the same laconic style:—"Oh, oh, Madame! Votre affectionné, &c., Talleyrand." In talking of office and its routine business, a great deal of which does itself, Rogers mentioned Lord North's illustration of this fact by a sign at Charing Cross of a black man turning a wheel. "People stare at this," said Lord North, "thinking that the black man turns the wheel, whereas it is the wheel that turns the black man."

20th. Went to Breakfast with Lord John. Found him alone. Longman had called upon him, he told me, on the subject of the Copyright Bill, and had shown him my letter, the whole of which Lord John had read. So much for private correspondence with one's publisher. In the course of our conversation he referred to my praise of the aristocracy at the Bristol dinner, and said he had often since thought of my courage in venturing it. Spoke of the tendency of the world now to Americanise in everything; in the forms of government, in literature, in the tone of society, &c. The remark, I fear, but too just. Talked of Bulwer's "Athens," and said he found it interesting. *Apropos* of Americanising, I remarked what an instance "Athens" was of the fact, that it is *the few* who have hitherto taught and given the tone to the world. What a light surrounds that small spot still! It is the *ὁ πολλοῦ* that will again reduce the world to barbarism. Asked me to come to dinner next Sunday, and said he would be glad to have me also on Saturday * *

* * * * *

* * Had in the children for me to

see, and showed off all their little ways as nicely as any mother could do. It is indeed charming to see so much gentleness of nature combined with a spirit so manly and determined as is certainly "Johnny's." Talking of Sydney's last letter, which is making such a noise, I said that I had as yet read only the memorable note, but had heard that, after having, in that note, glorified him (Lord John), at the expense of all his colleagues, Sydney had, at the end, thrown him overboard as well as the rest. "He *has*," answered Lord John, in his quiet way, rubbing the back of his head. He was, however, animated and earnest in condemning the manner in which Sydney had treated Lord Melbourne; "affecting," as he said, "to underrate Melbourne."

22nd. Breakfasted at Milnes', and met rather a remarkable party, consisting of Savage Landor and Carlyle (neither of whom I had ever seen before), Robinson, Rogers, and Rice. A good deal of conversation between Robinson and Carlyle about German authors, of whom I knew nothing, nor (from what they paraded of them) felt that I had lost much by my ignorance. Robinson had witnessed the performance of Schiller's "Bride of Messina," with the ancient chorus, but I forget now what he said as to its effects. Savage Landor a very different sort of person from what I had expected to find him; I found in him all the air and laugh of a hearty country gentleman, a *gros rejoui*; and whereas his writings had given me rather a disrelish to the man, I shall take more readily now to his writings from having seen the man.

23rd. Breakfasted at Brookes's. Went and sat some time with Valletort, whom I found much better. Called at Bulteel's, and saw his nice wife, Lady Elizabeth. Bulteel full of the North London Hospital performances, having left a case behind him in Devonshire more extraordinary than any of them. Read me a letter from the gentleman in whose house this phenomenon of a young lady is residing, giving an account, in the most serious and *bonâ fide* manner of such downright miracles, as throw all we have hitherto heard of in that line into the shade. Among other things she can, in the dark, by passing her two forefingers down the page of a book, take off the impress, as he expresses it, of the whole contents of the page, in about two seconds, and

repeat it all correctly. Proposed to me to accompany him to the North London Hospital some day to see Dr. Elliotson's manipulatory experiments.

Dined at Lansdowne House: a grand dinner to the Duke of Sussex, and a very splendid thing it was in every respect. Company, besides the Duke of Sussex and Lady Cecilia, the Duke and Duchess of Cleveland, Duke and Duchess of Somerset, Lord and Lady Minto, Lord and Lady Breadalbane, Lord Camperdown, Lord John Russell, and plain *Mister* Moore. Sat next Lord John. The Duke of Sussex, on coming in, exclaimed, as usual, "Ah, Tommy!" and called me to account for not having been to see him, but I told him I *had*. In the course of dinner, taking wine with different people, and lumping three or four together at a time, in order to *diffuse* the compliment, he cried out, on proposing wine to some at *our* part of the table, "Lord Minto, Lord John, and, last not least, Tommy!" On which Lord John said gravely, in an undertone, "Last and least;" thus putting in his claim, as I told him, for the small modicum of superiority he has over me in that respect; whereat he gave one of his very agreeable and playful laughs.

24th. Went down to the Longmans. Bad prospect for the edition of my works, and consequently of the supplies I expected from it. The uncertainty of the effects of the Copyright Bill, and, as yet, of the very nature of its enactments, must naturally suspend all undertakings dependent upon it. Have not mentioned, I believe, that on my first visit to the Longmans after my arrival, when I found them in high delight at Mrs. Moore's "opinion on copyright," I took care to impress upon them that it was solely from what I thought due to myself, and my own feeling of what was right, that I had come to the determination of not availing myself of any such law to change or unsettle my agreement with them. "There has already," I said, "been too much *sentiment* mixed up with this Bill, — sentiment for *authors*; and I wish you to understand that it is not from sentiment towards *publishers* that my present views have been adopted."

26th. Lady — having just received a letter from Paris giving an account of Talleyrand's death, gave me the note paper sheets

of the letter to read, according as she read them herself. The account curious, and well given. The management of the archbishop, in leaving the whole conduct of the death-bed scene to an Abbé, who intermediated, and the evident anxiety of — to give as orthodox an air to the whole transaction as was possible, all very amusing. Talleyrand more than once said during his dying moments, "*La machine s'en va*;" and these words were his last. Had received notice in the course of the day, that I must be early in attendance at the Freemasons' Tavern, as one of the stewards, to receive the President;* but found it far more agreeable, of course, to go *with* him, Henry Fitz being also of the party. Immense bustle on our arrival. Was invested with my wand as steward, and all made our way to the head table, the room being already crowded. Got seated between Bulwer and Wyse, within two or three of Lord L., and opposite me sat Sir Harris Nicolas with his flaming star (being a Guelph), whose book of the Privy Council I had lately been studying. The whole proceedings of the day interesting, and to me, in an almost overwhelming degree, flattering and gratifying. Lord Lansdowne, by general admission, a most admirable chairman; more particularly for such a purpose, his feelings and taste being, I think (whatever his ambition might once have been), far more towards literature than politics.

28th. A note from Mrs. Smith to say, that Sydney would take me to the Longmans to-day, if I liked. Had already half promised to go with Lardner, but sent a note to put him off. On our way to Hampstead, Sydney talked of his "Letter," rather nervously, as I thought. Forget whether I have mentioned Luttrell's saying to me the other day, "Well, my dear Moore, could you have conceived any man taking such pains to upset a brilliant position in society as Sydney has been taking lately?" In the course of our talk, Smith mentioned his having received a letter lately from Lord Carlisle, in acknowledgment of a copy of the pamphlet he had sent him. Repeated the substance, and, I suppose, nearly the words of the letter, which appeared to me a very polished but pointed condemnation of the pamphlet. Lord Carlisle, it is clear, in

* Of the Literary Fund.

writing it, felt himself bound to express, as politely as possible, what he knew to be the opinion of the persons he lived with on the subject; and being himself unscathed by the pamphlet, he could of course do it with a better grace. This, however, Sydney did not seem to me to feel. While we were on the subject, I thought it *my* duty, also, to tell him what I thought of his attack on Lord John; his representing him to be so totally devoid of feeling as to hear with unconcern the loss of the Channel fleet, the dying of a man under an operation for the stone, &c. &c., through his means. This he denied to be the purport or effect of the passage in question, which meant merely, he contended, that you could not perceive by Lord John's manner that he felt it. In the course of our conversation afterwards, he happened, in speaking with great bitterness of Lord Castlereagh, to say something of his indifference to the mischief and ruin he might cause by his measures, which amounted in purport exactly to the same which he has said of Lord John. I therefore instantly interrupted him, saying, "There, that's precisely the impression you produce in your character of Lord John." "You don't say so?" he exclaimed. "I assure you," I answered, "that such is the way in which it is viewed by all whom I have heard speak on the subject." "Then I must certainly," he said, "set myself right on that point; and as there is a new edition just coming out, I shall not lose a moment in doing it." On our arrival at Hampstead, he absented himself from the drawing-room for a short time, and I found afterwards it was for the purpose of making this correction. It is merely a short note denying that he meant to impute any want of feeling to Lord John. But the arrow had already sped, and no one now minds the note.

[On some occasion at this time, not worth recording, Mr. Moore quotes some verses from an Epilogue he wrote for the Killarney private theatricals, which describe well the various uses to which the manager (*Mr. Corry*) put his friends.

"'Tis said our worthy manager intends
To help my *night*,—and he you know has *friends*.
Friends, did I say? for fixing *friends* or *parts*,
Engaging *actors*, or engaging *hearts*,
There's nothing like him! wits, at his request,
Are changed to fools, and dull dogs learn to jest;

Soldiers, for him, good 'trembling cowards' make,
And beaux, turn'd clowns, look ugly for *his* sake;
For him e'en lawyers *talk*, without a *fee*,
And I,—oh friendship!—I act tragedy!"

July 7th to 10th. Nothing remarkable; working away at the reign of Henry VII. Received a letter from my countryman Dillon, of the "*Bibliothèque du Roi*," introducing some friends of his, and sending me two or three *brochures* published lately by Guizot; of which he says, "You will find them not unworthy of your attention, independently of the value you will naturally attach to a *souvenir* from such a writer.* M. Guizot has mentioned your name to me more than once. He, in common with the distinguished portion of his countrymen, appreciates fully those talents and that sterling patriotism which have earned for you the esteem and admiration of every dispassionate mind in England."

August 15th to 17th. A letter this latter day from Lord Morpeth, to whom I had written, in consequence of one I had received from Drummond, his under secretary. I shall here copy his note on account of the good fun it contains in allusion to Durham's late Ordinance, which makes it a capital offence to bid "farewell" to Bermuda.

"My dear Moore,—Many thanks for your good news of your intended sojourn at Dublin next month. It will be my compensation for getting no holydays, at which sometimes I am half disposed to repine. You are sometimes accused of treasonable tendencies in your poetry; but there is one passage containing in its outset such a direct incitement to capital crime, that I wonder it has never been branded as it deserves.

"Farewell to *Bermuda*, and long may the bloom
Of the citron and myrtle its valleys perfume;
May spring to eternity hallow the shade
Where Ariel has warbled and Waller has stray'd."

"Most sincerely yours."

31st. Went to H. the dentist to have my teeth cleaned. Told me of his nephew, who is practising as a dentist in India, being employed to make a set of teeth for the King of Delhi. The difficulty at starting was, that the dentist required to be allowed to take a model of the King's mouth; and the idea of a Christian putting his hand in the royal mouth was an abomination not to be heard of.

* Sent to me from Guizot himself

It was at last, however, agreed, that by washing his hands, before the operation commenced, in the water of the Ganges, the dentist might qualify himself for the contact. The teeth succeeded wonderfully; and one of the courtiers, who, from jealousy of the Englishman, had declared they would be good for nothing, was desired by the King to put his finger in and try, and, on the courtier doing so, his Majesty nearly bit the finger in two. The affair turned out, however, unluckily; as the King, whose appetite was enormous, being enabled by these new grinders to gratify it *ad libitum*, brought on a plethora, which nearly killed him, and the teeth were thrown into the Ganges. * * * Called one of these days at the Admiralty and saw Sir John Barrow, whom I found to be an old acquaintance of mine. My object was to make some inquiry as to the person at present holding the deputyship of my unlucky office at Bermuda. During peace there is little to be got or lost by it; but if, in the present combustible state of Western politics, a naval war should break out some fine morning, I might possibly be brought into the same scrape by my deputy (though of the Governor's appointment) as that which fell upon me like a thunder clap. Barrow agreed with me that I ought to look to the matter; and likewise that it would be the most prudent step, all circumstances considered, to resign the office.

September 1st. Started, in company with Hume, for Birmingham and Liverpool by the railroad. From this point my journalising was not very accurately attended to; the whirl of society in which I was kept not allowing me to "take note of time,"—I will not add "save by its loss,"—for it was anything but lost time to gather such a harvest of kindness and welcome as awaited me in Ireland at every step. The interruptions of our journey by the change from railroad to coach, and from coach back again to railroad, by no means agreeable. On our arrival at Vauxhall, too (near Birmingham), where the train stopped, the whole scene but too strikingly bore out the notion of those who see a tendency to *Americanise* in the whole course of the world at present. The way in which we were trundled out of the carriages, like goods, and all huddled together in the same

room,—the rush up-stairs to secure beds,—the common supper-room for the whole party,—and the small double-bedded room in which Hume and I were (to my no small uncomfört) forced to pig together,—all struck me as approaching very fast the sublime of Yankeeism.

2nd. Took the railroad to Liverpool, and was quite enchanted with the swiftness and ease of our course. There I sat, all the way, lolling in a most comfortable arm-chair, and writing memorandums in my pocket-book, as easily and legibly as I should at my own study table, while flying through the air at the rate of thirty miles an hour. Did the journey in about four hours and twenty minutes, and had but little time to look about us when we found ourselves on board the Liverpool packet. * * *

12th. Having appointed to go out to the Park, to the Ordinance Survey, went there with Petrie. Shown the whole by Mr. Larcum, and was as much struck with the man himself as by anything he showed me. The whole full of interest. Called in my way back on the Lord Lieutenant; and was told by Liddell, before I saw himself, that his Excellency had bid him say to me, that he hoped whenever I was not engaged elsewhere I would come and dine with him.

13th. Roused up about seven from my short sleep, by the arrival of Tom, who tramped up at once to my bedroom, looking very pale and ill. I had not told him of the night appointed for Nell's party, lest he should have made an effort to be there by starting sooner than the doctor might think prudent. Took him after breakfast to Crampton, who gave me every hope of his being soon brought round again. Went all of us,—Nell, Tom, and myself,—to dine with the Finlays to-day. In speaking of Irish history, it was not ill said by Finlay, "The lies are bad, and the truth still worse."

15th. Agreed to dine with Crampton *en famille*. Nobody but his own family; and a little after eight he and I and Tom proceeded to the theatre. Found I was rather late. Took my place in the front of Nell's box, between two very pretty sultanas she had provided for me, Georgiana O'Kelly and Miss Burne. The explosion on my appearance was tremendous, and when — but it will

save trouble to insert the "Morning Register's" account of the whole affair :—

"THEATRE ROYAL.—MR. MOORE, Sept. 15th, 1838. On Saturday night our illustrious poet—the true-hearted Irishman—had a reception at the theatre such as Irishmen are known to give when a heart is in every voice. The first piece had concluded before the shout of friendly recognition announced that the star of the night had appeared. The audience rose as one man, and again and again the long loud cheer swelled upon the ear, until the many-mouthed monster ceased through very weariness. It seemed the madness of joy. The second piece was then allowed to proceed, the shifting of each scene giving opportunity for some word of welcome. When the drop-scene fell, the cry for 'Three cheers for the Bard of Erin!' again called up every soul present; hats and handkerchiefs waving in one wide sea over the densely-crowded pit and galleries. Mr. Moore, evidently under the influence of feelings deeply touched, repeatedly rose in acknowledgment of the compliment; and as the applause had been frequently renewed, his lips were seen to move in involuntary expression of what he felt. A call for silence was then made, upon which the poet again rose and bowed, and, pointing to the stage, where the curtain had been raised, he resumed his seat. But what did those present value 'Robert Macaire'?—it was their illustrious countryman they went to see; and the cordial shout again rose as though it never were to die. There was nothing for it but to speak, even if the fixed heart had set itself against it; but it was not so, and Mr. Moore endeavoured to give utterance to what he felt in the following terms:

"Unusual as it is to speak from the boxes of a theatre, I really cannot sit any longer silent under these repeated demonstrations of cordiality and affection, and therefore have nothing for it but to say, with Mr. Muddleworth, in the farce which we have just witnessed, "and now for my oration" (laughter). It would require a voice, I fear, of far more compass than I command to make myself heard by the numerous kind friends who have here assembled to greet me; though, had I the voice of Stentor himself, combined with the eloquence of Demosthenes, or of your own O'Connell (loud cheers), I should fail to con-

vey to you a hundredth part of what I feel at this great, this overpowering kindness: not that I pretend to consider myself as wholly unworthy of such a reception—for that would be to do injustice to *you*, my kind friends, as well as to myself. No; you have had in other times, and you have still, far more able and eloquent champions of your cause ("no, no," and loud cheers). But, as the humble interpreter of those deep and passionate feelings—those proud, though melancholy, aspirations which breathe throughout our own undying songs—as the humble medium through which that voice of song and sorrow has been heard on other shores, awakening the sympathy of every people by whom the same wrongs, the same yearnings for freedom are felt—in this respect I cannot but flatter myself that I am not wholly unworthy of your favour (enthusiastic cheering). It may be in the recollection of most of my hearers, that, in one of the earliest of those songs, I myself foresaw and foretold the sort of echo they would awaken in other lands :—

"The stranger shall hear our lament on his plains,
The song of our harp shall be sent o'er the deep."

(Loud cheers.) This prediction I have lived to see accomplished—the stranger *has* heard our lament on his plains—the song of our harp *has* been sent o'er the deep—and wherever oppression is struggled against, or liberty cherished, there the strains of Ireland are welcomed as the language native to such feelings. It is a striking fact, that on the banks of the Vistula the "Irish Melodies" have been translated in a Polish sense, and are adopted by that wronged and gallant people as expressive of their own disastrous fate (loud cheers). Not to trespass any longer on your attention (hear and cheers), I shall only add, that there exists no title of honour or distinction to which I could attach half so much value, or feel half so anxious to retain unforfeited through life, as that of being called *your* poet—the poet of the people of Ireland." (Enthusiastic cheering.)

"This brief address, which was repeatedly broken in upon by hearty cheers, was followed by tremendous applause. We do not speak of the performance of the dramatic corps; for, as we have already said, their doings had little to do with the attraction of the night."

17th. Went with a party, consisting of Mrs. Fitzsimon (O'Connell's daughter), and some others, to see the National School in Marlborough Street, and was much pleased, particularly with the *infant* part of it, which we found in the playground, and certainly never before saw so many happy, pretty, and picturesque urchins assembled together. Went to dine, Tom and myself, with Lord Morpeth, and had rather a whimsical adventure. In going out to the Park I have generally used one of those cabs (or *shanderadans*, as they call them) which my sister recommended me, driven by an odd fellow named Ennis, and thinking it was he who had driven me the last time I went to Lord Morpeth's, I merely said now at starting, "Go to the same place you took me to the other evening." The length of the avenue to the house rather struck me, and when we arrived and were told they had gone to dinner, some mention of "the groom of the chamber," &c., made a sort of passing impression upon me, which, instead of startling, produced insensibly, I suppose, that change in all my associations which prepared me (so otherwise unaccountably) for what followed. After a little delay we were ushered into—the Lord Lieutenant's dining-room, where only himself, Lady Normanby, and the *aides-de-camp* were seated at their family dinner, and it was only by taking close order they were able to make room among them for Tom and myself. To Lord Normanby there was just sufficient, in the general invitation he had given me for *any day*, to prevent his being greatly surprised at my present intrusion; but my bringing my son also must have appeared to him a somewhat strong measure. Nothing, however, could be more kind than our reception by the whole party, and I was helped to soup, and had finished it before the actual fact of what I had done and where I was flashed upon my mind. "Good God!" I exclaimed, "what a mistake I have committed!" "What!" said Lord Normanby, laughing, and at once seeing the whole fact of the case, "were you to have dined with Morpeth? That's excellent. Now we have you we'll keep you." Upon which he instantly ordered the *aide-de-camp* to send a messenger to Morpeth's to say, "We have stopped Mr. Moore on the way." The dinner very agreeable, but soon after we had retired to the drawing-room, I said, "Well, all this is

very delightful so far; but I really must now go to the *right* place;" upon which Lord N. very kindly ordered one of his carriages to take me to Morpeth's, but it turned out that my own shanderadan had waited for me, so off Tom and I set in it for the Secretary's, where we found a very large party, and I sung away for them at the rate of a dozen songs per hour, to make up for my default.

22nd. The day not very favourable for our passage home; but I cannot expect to be lucky in every thing. Tom danced till two in the morning at the Lord Lieutenant's. Went the first thing after breakfast to the Royal Irish Academy to look over a MS. life of Red Hugh, which Petrie yesterday told me of. Had luncheon at Nell's at three o'clock, and then set off, Hume and I, accompanied by Tom, to Kingston. Encountered an odd scene on going on board. The packet was full of people coming to see friends off, and among others was a party of ladies who, I should think, had dined on board, and who, on my being made known to them, almost devoured me with kindness, and at length proceeded so far as to insist on each of them *kissing* me. At this time I was beginning to feel the first rudiments of coming *sickness*, and the effort to respond to all this enthusiasm, in such a state of stomach, was not a little awkward and trying. However, I kissed the whole party (about five, I think,) in succession, two or three of them being, for my comfort, young and good-looking, and was most glad to get away from them to my berth, which, through the kindness of the captain (Emerson), was in his own cabin. But I had hardly shut the door, feeling very qualmish, and most glad to have got over this osculatory operation, when there came a gentle tap at the door, and an elderly lady made her appearance, who said that having heard of all that had been going on, she could not rest easy without being also kissed as well as the rest. So, in the most respectful manner possible, I complied with the lady's request, and then betook myself with a heaving stomach to my berth. * * *

24th. I shall now note down briefly, as well as I can recollect them, some particulars respecting my *studies* during the time I stayed in Dublin; scarcely a day having passed without my devoting some hours to the chief object I had in my visit. In the

College library I found the abstract of the Book of Pandarus, which I wished to see. I also found some curious things (but *only* curious) in the catalogue Todd is making of the manuscripts of the library. Went through the manuscripts likewise, and took memorandums of the few things I saw much worthy of notice. Among others the contents of four of the books given by Archbishop Laud to the Bodleian, which I shall take a trip some time or other to see. Went through the "Annals of Clomnaenise," and the "Annals of Innisfallen," one of which books of annals was, if I recollect right, at the Royal Irish Academy, and the other at the College. But the book to which I devoted the most time was O'Donovan's translation of the "Four Masters," beginning at the period when O'Connor's translation of the "Four Masters" ends. This work I found in the possession of Smith and Hodges, the book-sellers, and passed some hours of almost every day, for the last ten or twelve of my stay, in looking over and making extracts from it. Found nothing, however, of much importance, their omission of some remarkable events being far more remarkable than anything they contain. For instance, the second visit of Richard II. to Ireland is entirely unnoticed by them. The day before my departure, Petrie reminded me that I had not looked through the MS. life of Red Hugh at the Royal Irish Academy; accordingly, immediately after breakfast the next morning, I went to the Academy, and, taking with me the second volume of Sir W. Betham's "Antiquarian Researches," which professes to give an abstract of the said MS. found that the abstract would be quite sufficient for my purpose. Forgot whether I have mentioned among my memorandums a visit or two which I made to Betham during my stay. Found many curious things in his library, but almost all relating to periods later than that on which I am at present employed. Among some *accessible* books I found was the "Index to the Rolls of the English Parliament," which contains many references of importance respecting Ireland, and of which I must procure a copy. Have also, I think, omitted to mention my going to see the "Black Book" of Christ Church [Dublin] under the auspices of the Bishop of Kildare

(a fine old man), who was remarkably kind to me, and wanted me to dine with him to meet Lady Stuart and her handsome daughter, but I was unluckily engaged. Went with him to Kirk's, to see his bust, my shandardan being our conveyance. Only think! Tom Moore and a bishop cheek by jowl in a cab!

* * *

It was Billy Murphy, I believe, who, fresh from reading my "Captain Rock," said to Corry, with the tears running down his cheeks, "Oh, it's a beautiful book; I never before knew how ill-used we are." * * *

This is all, I think, of the communications received during my trip that deserve any particular notice. I forget whether I have mentioned the recollections that gradually came over me, at Lord Morpeth's table, the day Lord Lansdowne and myself dined quietly with him to go to the theatre. I had remarked, in the course of conversation, that it was a significant proof of the politics that had prevailed in the Castle during my lifetime, that I was but once before a guest in that house. When I came to recollect, however, it turned out, that in the *one* instance which I had then called to mind, Sir Henry Hardinge had been my host, and that I had dined (whether at the Castle or Park, I now forget,) both with Elliot and (never-to-be-forgotten day) with Sir Arthur Wellesley. I say never to be forgotten, because on that day, the conversation happening to turn upon my poor friend Emmett, I was afforded an opportunity within those memorable walls of speaking of him as he deserved, and with Sir Arthur Wellesley for my most attentive, and apparently most interested, listener. Such a flight of daring at an Irish Secretary's table was, at that time, little less than a portent. But the merit was far less in the speaker than in the great listener; for even the most ordinary of Irish Secretaries could, from his very position, have consigned me to silence with a look. But I was encouraged by the attention of my auditor; and that very night, when undressing for bed, I remember saying to myself, "Well, thank God, I have lived to pronounce an eulogium upon Robert Emmett at the Irish Chief Secretary's table."

October 20th. Went to dine at Bowood. Company staying there, my old friends the Miss Berrys, Mr. Twopenny, and Henry's

quondam tutor, Mr. Ashley. Sung in the evening. Miss Berry, as I now found from her, was present on that very evening (to me long memorable) when I made my first appearance as a singer in London. When I call it "*first* appearance," I mean before any very large or miscellaneous company. Miss Berry's description of the effect I produced tallied very much with my own recollections; and she also described (what I did not of course myself observe) the sort of contemptuous titter with which the fine gentlemen and amateurs round the pianoforte saw a little Irish lad led forth to exhibit after all the fine singing that had been going on,—the changes in their countenances when they saw the effect I produced, &c. &c. I don't know whether I may not already have mentioned somewhere, that, on that night, as I was leaving the pianoforte, I heard a lady say, as I passed her, "And he's going to the Bar—what a pity!" Old Hammersley himself, who, it appeared, had also heard her, begged me, when I was taking my departure, to call upon him in the morning; and I found, on going to him at the time appointed, that his object was to express the regret he had felt at the foolish speech uttered in my hearing by this lady, and to advise me not to allow the admiration thus bestowed on my musical and poetical talent to divert my mind from the steady pursuit of the profession chosen for me. This I always thought most kind and fatherly in old Hammersley. A good deal of talk also with Miss Berry about the agreeable times we passed together at Tunbridge in 1805-6. Would I had begun journalising then! our ever-memorable party consisting of the Dunmores, Lady Donegal and sisters, the Duchess of St. Albans, Lady Heathcote, Lady Anne Hamilton, with the beautiful Susan Beckford (now Duchess of Hamilton) under her care, Thomas Hope (making assiduous love to Miss Beckford), William Spencer, Rogers, Sir Henry Englefield, &c. &c. Miss Berry reminded me of several odd incidents of that period.

27th. Had some beautiful singing in the chapel from Lady Barrington and Lady Williamson, Combe the organist having been brought over from Chippenham to accompany. Lady Williamson sung "Let the bright Seraphim," with great spirit and power. They

sung, also, Haydn's beautiful "Tu di Grazie," in which I *could* have joined (as I told them afterwards), but did not volunteer. Walked late in the day to Serjeant Mereweather's to dinner; nobody but Serjeant Cross and his lady and daughter to dinner. Sung a good deal for them in the evening, and had a fly home,—at least *thought* it was a fly (though much surprised at its smartness) till on coming to *pay*, I found it to be Serjeant Cross's carriage.

November 15th. * * * Found a good many droppers-in at Brookes's, notwithstanding the dead season. Rich mentioned his having met Alava at dinner the other day, and his telling of Pitt's prophecy of the Spanish war a short time before his death. His saying that, Nothing was now to be done by the sovereigns; it must be a war of the people; and it was in Spain it would begin.

16th. Called upon Moxon, the publisher, to inquire about Rogers, whom the Hollands left behind them at Paris, and who has chosen an apartment for himself to which there are 120 steps of stairs to go up, this being Rogers's system to keep the *physique* for ever in play; if you once give it up, he thinks, all's over. Talking of my Edition, Moxon said there would be no doubt of its success. Wordsworth's (published by him, and for the edition of which he gives Wordsworth 1000*l.*; the same the Longmans give me) sells, he said, very well. Has already sold near 2000 copies. The Longmans printed, according to him, only 1000 of Southey; they mean, however, I believe, to print 8,000 or 10,000 of mine. * * *

When at Cramer's this morning had some conversation with Addison, and was glad to learn from him that the old things of mine he has had from Mrs. Porter ("The Irish," "The National Melodies," "The Sacred Songs,") are still doing wonderfully well; hardly a post arrives that does not bring orders for some of them. Expressed himself quite surprised at the popularity and vitality there is still in them. All this very agreeable to hear. Was curious to know from him which of the settings of my words, "They tell me thou'rt the favoured guest," was the most asked for and popular,—Balf's, or the pretty air I originally wrote them to; and was sorry, though not surprised, to find that, though

both sold very well, Balfé's was the most in request. In the same way, I found that a song of mine which I myself had entirely forgot, "The Dream of Home," (so little had either the words or music interested me) was one of those that sold the best. I wrote it, if I recollect right, to an air not of my own choosing; and the same ordinary *sing-song* style which caused it to make so little impression on my own mind was what recommended it to the great mass of song-buyers. I *may* be, all this time, calumniating both the song and its singers, for I took but a glimpse of it when Addison produced it; but, if I had felt it very much, I certainly should not have so entirely forgot it, particularly as little more than a year could have elapsed since its production.

19th. Had fixed with Sydney to call to take me to dinner; and in fixing the hour, he said, "Remember, I'm a *prose* writer,—so be ready when I come." *Was* ready. Tom Longman's our dining-place. Company, Serjeant Talfourd, the Hart Davises, Merivale, junr., and one or two more.

20th. Dined at Brookes's alone: and having received a message from Drury Lane Theatre, to say that if I would come to the stage-door there would be a person waiting to receive me, set off there accordingly [to see the lions], and had my choice of private boxes given me. In the course of the piece was joined by Bunn, and went behind the scenes with him, where the mixture of materials, both human and bestial, was, to be sure, most astounding. In one place was a troop of horse from Astley's, with the riders all mounted, and about and *among* them were little children with wings, practising their steps, while some maturer nymphs were pirouetting, and all looking as grave—both riders, urchins, and nymphs,—as if the destiny of the world depended upon their several operations. A few steps further you came upon the lions, which I did rather too closely, and was warned off by Bunn. While I stood looking at them, there was also another gentleman, a grave and respectable looking young man, standing with his arms folded, and contemplating them in silence, while the animals were pacing about their cage without minding any of us. This, to my surprise, (I found from Bunn) was Mr. Van Amburg, their tamer; and having heard

since that he is under the impression he will one day or other be the victim of one of these animals (the lesser lion, I think), I must say that the grave earnestness with which he stood silently looking at them that night was such as one might expect from a person prepossessed with such a notion. Dreadfully wet night; got home in a cab.

21st. Called on Lady E. Fielding, who is staying at the Valletorts. Sat some time with Valletort. Talked of the Duke of Wellington, who is (deservedly) an idol of V.'s. The Duke's grief at Fitzroy Somerset's wound. Saying to some one who was congratulating him on the victory: "*Don't* congratulate me; I never was so torn by anything in my life." Dined at Bentley's; Luttrell and I going together. The company all the very *haut ton* of the literature of the day. First (to begin *low* on the scale) myself, then Mr. Jerdan, of the "Literary Gazette," then Mr. Ainsworth, then Mr. Lover, then Luttrell, and lastly, "Boz" and Campbell. Poor Campbell, I was sorry to see, broken and nervous. Our host very courteous and modest, and the conversation rather agreeable. Lover sung, and I was much pressed to do the same, but refused, saying, rather unluckily, that I should feel as doing something unnatural to sing to a party of men. Forget, by the by, one of the cleverest fellows, Barham, the minor canon, my friend Hume's friend, and also Moran of "The Globe." Hume enclosed to me, some time after, a letter he had received from Barham, giving an account of this dinner, and in which (aware, no doubt, of Hume's habit of circulating his letters from friend to friend), he thus speaks of myself. After praising Luttrell's conversation, he adds, "Still he did not extinguish his neighbour who sat between him and Campbell, and who, beyond all question, bears away the palm from any man that I, and, I believe, any one else ever met in society."

22nd. Breakfasted at Brookes's, and from thence to the Longmans, calling at Beaufort Buildings in my way, to say I should come later in the day. Turner (the solicitor) not yet arrived. The signing and sealing of our agreements as to the Edition having been fixed to take place to-day. Had an advance of 100*l.* from them. The sum they are to give me for "The Edition" 1000*l.* The read-

ing over and signing all the different papers took a good deal of time. Went up to their old book-loft to look over the volumes of the "Record Commission" (belonging to me), which I have not yet had down to Sloperton. Found nothing more among them that could be of any use to me. A man employed there in tracing the autographs of Melanethon from an old MS. common-place book, which is now proved to be all in his handwriting, and which Butler, the Bishop of Litchfield, bought some time since from the Longmans for 80*l*. Had it been known then that the manuscript was all Melanethon's own, the book would have brought, the Longmans think, two or three hundred pounds. It is curious that Melanethon appears to have had three or four entirely different sorts of handwriting; and that not for the purposes of concealment or mystification, as he seems to have sometimes employed them *all* in writing the same letter or article. A curious whim! The pages also full of odd and grotesque drawings by the same hand. Dined at Murray's. Company, Lockhart, James Smith, Murchison, Penn and some others. Murray mentioned to me his having two MS. volumes of Captain Morris's songs sent to him by the widow, with a view to publication; all *proper*, for a wonder. I had not the least notion that he had written so many produceable lyrics. Said that the widow indulged in most extravagant notions of what she was to make by them; talked of 10,000*l*! Asked me should I like to look over them, and I said, Yes, very much.

24th. Started at seven alone, and continued so, with but a short interruption all the way, having Swift's "Tale of a Tub," which I bought at a stall, for my companion. At Calne took a fly and got home to Bess rather early.

Mem. Received, some time this month, from my Paris friend, "Dillon" of the Bibliothèque, a copy of M. Thierry's "Etudes Historiques," sent me, through his hands, by that gentleman (the author of the "History of the Descent of the Normans"). I had seen this work at Millikin's some years since, and read the article in it on my "Melodies," which is very flattering and gratifying. The following is a part of Dillon's note, "M. Thierry handed me a few evenings ago the

accompanying book, in order that I might forward it to you as a faint expression of admiration for your talents and character. You will find these feelings expressed in one or two eloquent fragments of the work itself; a proof that they are not of recent growth in M. Thierry's bosom. Should you think proper to acknowledge this little *souvenir* by a letter or line to M. Thierry, he will feel very proud of it I am sure, and doubly so were you to send him a copy of your "Melodies," which he often speaks of as the source from which he derived the purest and best of his literary inspirations. I was delighted to see, the other day, the reception given you in Dublin. The Irish people deserve all that zeal and eloquence which you have displayed in their behalf. They are a grateful people, and a grateful people ought never to be despaired of," &c. &c.

I of course sent a copy of the "Irish Melodies," to M. Thierry. Received also through Dillon, some time ago, two or three new brochures of M. Guizot, sent me from himself, as "*hommages*."

December 16th. * * In talking of Hume's charming style, Allen said it was curious to trace the gradual formation of it (for it was the work of time and elaboration) from his earliest essays till it reached the point at which we see it in his History. Somebody ought to publish an edition of the History, correcting the mistakes.

17th. Bowles sent me, this morning, a Latin epitaph (ancient, I believe) and his own translation of it, with both of which he seems mightily pleased. The original (as well as I can remember) is as follows: "*Hic jacet Lollius juxta viam, ut dicant præterientes, Lolli vale!*"

TRANSLATION.

"Here Lollius lies, beside the road,
That they who journey by
May look upon his last abode,
And 'Farewell, Lollius,' sigh."

This last line is as bad as need be, and so Lord Holland seemed to think, as well as myself. I suggested, as at least a more natural translation of it,

"And say, 'Friend Loll, good bye!'"

Which Lord H. improved infinitely by making it,

"And say 'Toll Loll, good bye!'"

Some talk with Lord Holland about Morris's songs, the MS. volumes of which Murray sent after me from town. Repeated to him the pretty lines :—

My mnse, too, when her wings are dry,
No frolic flights will take,
But round the bowl she'll dip and fly,
Like swallows round a lake ; "

which he was, of course, pleased with, but did not seem to think much of Morris's talent, in general. Certainly in the immense heap which the two MS. volumes contain, I found none but the few already known to me that were at all worth saving from oblivion, and this I told Murray in returning them. There was one, a political song, which I had forgot, but which for its rhythmical adaptation of the words to the air is wonderful. It begins :—

"We be
Emperors three,
Sandy, and Franky, and little Boney ;"

and preserves this structure most lyrically throughout. The following scraps I have thought worth transcribing for old recollection's sake :—

"Old Horace, when he dipp'd his pen,
'Twas wine he had resort to ;
He chose for use Falernian juice,
As I choose old Oporto.

"At every bout an ode came out,
Yet Bacchus kept him twinkling,
As well aware more fire was there,
Which wanted but the sprinkling.

* * * * *
"Then what those think, who water drink,
Of those old rules of Horace,
I won't now show, but this I know,
His rules do well for Morris."

And the following, from his excellent mock praises of a country life :—

"Where nothing is seen
But an ass on a common or goose on a green.
And it's odds if you're hurt, or in fits tumble down,
You reach *death* ere the doctor can reach *you* from town.

In the country how sprightly our visits we make
Through ten miles of mud for formality's sake,
With the coachman in drink, and the moon in a fog,
And no thought in your head but a ditch or a bog.

To look at fine prospects with tears in one's eyes.
But a house is much more to my taste than a tree,
And for groves—oh, a fine grove of chimneys for me !

But in London, thank heaven ! our peace is secure,
Where for one eye to kill there's a thousand to cure.

In town let me live, then, in town let me die,
For in truth I can't relish the country, not I !
If one *must* have a villa in summer to dwell,
Oh give me the sweet shady side of Pall Mall."

1839.

JANUARY 1st. Tuesday. At Bowood: Bessy, Russell, and myself having come here on Saturday last. Company in the house, Charles Fox, Lady Mary, Lady Kerry, and Pashley, with the addition, yesterday, of Lady Elizabeth and Horatia. Fine fun for Russell, as two of the nights we had Acted Charades, in which Charles Fox, Shelburne, and Russell were the performers, and yesterday a large party went out riding, of which Russell made one. Charles gave us his imitations of the national singing of different countries, the conversations of Hottentots, &c., and the whole time has been very cheerful and amusing. Yesterday took place the usual dinner to the children of Lady L.'s school in the conservatory, which was very pretty and interesting, all the ladies attending upon them, and Bessy, of course, quite in her element. Our whole visit very agreeable. Forget whether I mentioned that I wrote to the scrap-book man, declining definitely his proposal. It is too provoking to think that while I have been now nearly two years at work at the third volume of my "History" (not even yet finished) for which I am to receive but 500*l.*, I should be thus obliged to refuse the same sum for a light task which I could accomplish with ease in three months !

In this month Moore received from M. Thierry the following letter :—

"MONSIEUR,—Rien ne pouvait m'être plus agréable que votre lettre, et le présent que vous avez eu la bonté d'y joindre. Je suis heureux de tenir de vous ce livre que j'admire et dont je me suis inspiré. Votre poésie patriotique me parut, il y a bien des années, non seulement le cri de douleur d'Irlande, mais encore le chant de tristesse de tous les peuples opprimés. C'est de la vive impression qu'elle fit sur moi après nos désastres de 1815, qu'est venu, en grande partie, le sentiment que domine dans l'Histoire de la Conquête d'Angleterre. Le livre, auquel vous avez la bonté d'accorder un suffrage qui m'est bien précieux vous doit beaucoup ; et je suis heureux de vous le dire. On en fait en ce moment une

édition plus ornée et plus correcte que les précédentes ; permettez-moi de vous l'offrir ; dès qu'elle sera imprimée, vous en recevrez un exemplaire. Agréez-le, Monsieur, comme un témoignage de gratitude, et croyez aux sentimens de haute estime et d'admiration avec lesquels j'ai l'honneur d'être, &c. &c."

18th, 19th. Received a letter one of these days from Mrs. Shelley, who is about to publish an edition of Shelley's works, asking me whether I had a copy of his "Queen,"—that as originally printed for private circulation ; as she could not procure one, and took for granted that I must have been one of those persons to whom he presented copies. In answering that I was unluckily *not* one of them, I added, in a laughing way, that I had never been much in repute with certain great guns of Parnassus, such as Wordsworth, Southey, her own Shelley, &c. Received from her, in consequence, a very kind and flattering reply, in which she says, "I cannot help writing one word to say how mistaken you are. Shelley was too true a poet not to feel your unrivalled merits, especially in the department of poetry peculiarly your own,—songs and short poems instinct with the intense principle of life and love. Such, your unspeakably beautiful poems to Nea ; such, how many others ! One of the first things I remember with Shelley was his repeating to me one of your *gems* with enthusiasm. In short, be assured that as genius is the best judge of genius, those poems of yours which you yourself would value most, were admired by *none* so much as Shelley. You know me far too well not to know I speak the exact truth."

20th. I am not sure whether I have mentioned that when last in town, I spoke to Hobhouse about our little Russell, and his wish to become an Indian soldier. Hobhouse then said that his cadetships for that year had been all given away, but that *if* (emphatic, as it well might be) his official life lasted long enough, my son should not be forgotten. I have lately reminded him on the subject, and he has most promptly and kindly appointed Russell to a cadetship. We have accordingly taken him from the Charter House, and in order to prepare him for Addiscombe, have sent him to a preparatory school at Edmonton, Dr. Firminger's.

February 1st to 3d. The same monotonous

course of life, which leaves but little for journalizing. Have again played the same trick upon Bessy, with respect to her supplies for the poor, as I have done more than once before,—have confidentially got Boyse to send her a five-pound note, as if from himself, for the poor of Bromham. It makes her happy without the drawback of knowing it comes from my small means, and, in the way she manages it, does a world of good.

4th to 7th. Received a letter from my Calcutta friend, whose first letter I took a whole year to answer, though he sent me a volume of poems with it that showed a good deal of talent. He is, however, in very good humour with me, and bears testimony to my accuracy as an orientalist, which, from such a quarter, is not a little satisfactory. After saying some flattering things, such as that, "a man who has the admiration of nations need concern himself very little about the opinion of a small poetaster in Calcutta," he adds, "and yet after all, perhaps, my local knowledge of Orientalism may render me in some respects by no means a contemptible judge of the fidelity of some of your Eastern descriptions. It appears to me that the character of most oriental scenes and nations exhibits that general resemblance which enables a person, familiar with a part of them, to judge pretty fairly of all oriental poetry. If this be true, I may venture to speak with some confidence of the exquisite fidelity of your oriental descriptions. I have been for some few years a Professor of English literature at the Hindu College (a noble institution for the instruction of the natives in the literature and science of the West), and I have always found poetry greedily devoured by the students."

26th. Bessy and I started for Napier's, on our long-promised visit. Found Roebuck with him, whom I was very glad to meet, and even more surprised than glad, as nothing could be less like a firebrand than he is, his manner and look being particularly gentle. But this is frequently the case ; my poor friend Robert Emmett was as mild and gentle in his manner as any girl. Roebuck stayed but a short time, having to return to Bath by the boat, which I was sorry for.

27th. Young Falkner, the brother-in-law of Roebuck, came, and soon after Roebuck

himself joined us. Conversation on various subjects,—America, mesmerism, &c. &c.,—all very agreeable. Some allusion having been made to my squibs, Roebuck said that I had described *him* (which I had myself forgot) dancing a fandango with Recorder Shaw. On the subject of mesmerism I found Roebuck to be much of the same opinion as myself—that the next folly to that of swallowing all its marvels is that of rejecting them all. The very circumstance, as I remarked, of its rising again and again into notice, at no very distant intervals, after having been crushed as it was thought by the ridicule of the world and the quackery of its own professors, shows that there is some germ of real truth and life in it. Was sorry when Roebuck and his brother-in-law left us, as they would have been a most welcome ingredient in our evening party; but they were obliged to go.

28th. Went shopping, and made a purchase I have long dreamed of, but could never muster up courage enough for the outlay, namely, a fire-proof box for valuable papers. It cost me, after all, but 5*l.*, and the ease of mind it will give me on that score is well worth the money.

March 4th to 7th. Bessy better, thank God. From an account of a duel between Roebuck and Lord Powerscourt which has appeared in the papers, I find it must have taken place the very morning after the day when we last saw him at Freshford.

8th, 9th. A letter from Mrs. Napier to Bessy, from which it appears that Roebuck was on his way to town that Wednesday for the purpose of the duel with Lord P., having left Mrs. Roebuck under the impression that he was to pass the night at Napier's. I must say, with such an affair on his mind, the composure and cheerfulness of his conversation and manner was not a little remarkable.

28th. An amusing letter from Byng, telling me one or two ludicrous things which have happened lately, evidently, I think (though he does not say as much), for the purpose of tempting me into squibs thereon. The following are extracts from his note:—“Are you aware that Grosvenor Square is at length completely lighted with gas? Are these new lights preparatory to taking office? If you have not already been told, you may be

glad to hear that the High Church at Oxford having, as you know, acquired an enormous subscription to build a temple or monument to Crammer, sought out, and at length as they thought found, the very spot where he was buried, and, still more fortunately, discovered his bones. The bones were sent to Professor Buckland, who, having examined them, pronounced them to be the bones of a *cow*.”

April 4th to 7th. Received a letter one of these days, at which, on the first glance, we were rather alarmed, thinking it was our own J. Russell that had met with some accident while at play. It was as follows, dated from Ipswich:—“Sir,—Mr. J. Russell, while amusing us with his entertainment here, a short time since, stated, when speaking of phrenology, that Mr. Deville was visited by yourself and Dr. Lardner; that you were pronounced a mathematician, and the learned Doctor a poet. Mr. Deville assures me the assertion is incorrect. May I beg the favour of a reply? Apologising for troubling you on so trifling an occasion, I have the honour, &c., A. B. Cook.” Wrote in answer to him, that the story, though a very good one, had not the slightest foundation in truth. Something analogous to it, however, *did* happen, which I had half a mind to tell him. When Deville first examined my head, without the least idea who I was, he found in it a great love of *fact*, which Rogers, I recollect, laughed at, saying, “He had discovered Moore to be a matter-of-fact man!” Deville, however, was quite right in his guess. I never was a reader of works of fiction; and my own chief work of fiction (“*Lalla Rookh*”) is founded on a long and laborious collection of facts. All the customs, the scenery, every flower from which I have drawn an illustration, were inquired into by me with the utmost accuracy; and I left no book that I could find on the subject unsansacked. Hence arises that matter-of-fact adherence to Orientalism for which Sir Gore Ouseley, Colonel Wilks, Carne, and others, have given me credit.

May 3rd. * * * On my saying something, by the by, to Landor of my consciousness of the little value that any thing I had done in the way of poetry must bear in his eyes (meaning the eyes of his school altogether), he answered, “On the contrary, I

think you have written a greater number of beautiful lyric poems than any one man that ever existed." Corry reminded me of a good criticism on our Kilkenny theatricals, by some one who said, that of all the stage company he infinitely preferred the prompter: and why? "Because he is least seen and best heard:" also a very Irish description given by Harry Bushe of the place which he held under Government, namely, "Resident surveyor, with perpetual leave of absence." I took the Devizes coach home, having bought a book at Bath to amuse myself with on the way, "Select Funeral Orations of Thucydides, Plato, Lysias," &c. &c. in the *original*! I had the help of notes, however.

9th to 12th. A visit from Bowles one of these days. Showed me some new progeny of his muse, which really breeds rabbit-fashion. This was prose, however, and theological; tracing the Catholic adoration of the host to the circular image of the sun worshipped at Heliopolis. But why not take the cross itself, which formed a part of the religious worship of the Egyptians? * This, however, would involve somewhat more than the mere Catholic case, and is therefore let alone. The Catholics, however, instead of shrinking from this sort of parallelism between their religion and that of the heathen, are, on the contrary, proud of it; and Bishop Baines, the other day, in showing me some magnificent engravings executed at Rome, representing the grand ceremonies of the Church, remarked how closely the fans borne by the attendants resembled the *flabella* carried in the holy rites of the Egyptians. This shows good sense, I must say, as well as fearlessness, and affords in itself a pregnant distinction between the ancient and the mere upstart.

13th to 14th. The following are a few of the things that struck me in my Greek studies the other day in the Bath coach. *Γνώμη μὴ ἀξύνετος*, a mode of expression resembling the English one "He is no fool," meaning that he is a man of very good sense. Plato, too, in one of these orations uses the same form of speech,—*οὐ πάνν, φαῦλη*, i. e. *ἀγαθή*. Thucydi-

* The Egyptians were acquainted also with the Trinity, as would seem by the inscription on the obelisk in the Circus Maximus at Rome,—*Μέγας θεός, θεογενήτης, παμφεγγής*.

des thus tersely and sensibly describes the difficulty there is in hitting the true medium in oratory,—*χαλεπὸν γὰρ τὸ μετρίως εἰπεῖν*. The following sentence, quoted from Sallust, *de Bell. Jug.*, might aptly be applied to our great Duke;—" *Ac sane, quod difficillimum imprimis, et praelio strenuus erat et bonus consilio*."

29th. Went to breakfast with Lord John, having written yesterday to say I would. No one but his sister, Lady Georgiana (who now lives with him), at breakfast. Had the children in for me to see them. Talked of poor Lord Essex, whom he had seen but two or three days before his death. His spirit and his interest in politics unflagging to the last. Urging Lord John to do something bold and decisive; and when Lord John said, in reply, "Yes, we must take some steps," "Some steps!" said the gallant old fellow, interrupting him, "Why, the carriage is at the door, and you've nothing to do but to *step* into it, and drive on." Speaking at the time of the change of feeling that had taken place in all ranks, Lord Essex said, "I remember when we used to wear our stars of a morning; now, even in the evening, we are inclined to hide them under our waistcoats." He then told Lord John an anecdote of his walking in the street one morning with the late Duke of Queensberry, when both were young men (returning, I believe, from some night party), and the Duke had on a large star. As they passed some labouring men, one of them looked at the star, and then turning to his companions gave a significant laugh or smile. "What!" said the Duke, after they had gone by, slapping his star as he spoke, "have they found out this humbug at last?" All this lively talk took place but two days, I believe, before Lord Essex died; and he in his 82nd year! His death leaves a great gap in the social circle.

Praised Macaulay's late articles in the "Edinburgh," and agreed with me in lamenting that his great powers should not be concentrated upon *one* great work, instead of being scattered thus in Sybil's leaves; inspired, indeed, but still only leaves. I did not express the thought quite in this way, but such was my meaning. Went from Lord John's to Rogers's. Met Savage Landor on the way, who walked with me through the Park. I

had previously called at Lord Carlisle's, and found Lord Morpeth, with whom I sat for a little while: and then, being so near, paid a visit also to Lady Lilford, and saw both her beautiful self, and her beautiful little boy. Told me that Lord Holland was very far from well.

June 1st. Saw by the bills that my counterpart "Tim Moore" was to be acted once more, "by desire," this evening, and resolved not to miss it. Went to Haymarket, and left word that I would come. Dinner at Spottiswoodes', Mrs. Robert Arkwright, Longmans, &c. &c.; a very large party. Told Mrs. S. that I must leave her for a short time (not saying where I was going) at half-past nine, but would positively return; she, though a little distrusting me, very good-humoured about it; her guests, however, on seeing me rise to depart, warned her not to let me slip out of her hands, as I was sure not to return. Got a swift cab, and rattled off to the Haymarket (from Bedford Square no trifling distance); but found they had told me too early an hour, as the piece preceding "Tim Moore" was still not nearly finished. This rather *contrariant*; but I was well rewarded for the effort, having been seldom more amused. The instructions of the Blue lady to her sister Blues (the scene laid, too, at Devizes) as to the manner in which they were to receive the supposed poet; their getting him to write in their albums, &c., the old dandy who is to cry "Dem'd foine" at everything the poet utters; all very comical. The medley, too, which the Blue lady sings, made out of the first lines of the different "Irish melodies," as well as of the first few bars of each air, is exceedingly well contrived, and was most tumultuously encored. When she came again, it was with an entirely new selection from the "Melodies," equally well strung together. Altogether, between the fun of the thing, and the flattering proofs it gave of the intimate acquaintance of the public with me and my country's songs, I was kept in a state between laughing and crying the whole time. The best of it all, too, was, that I enjoyed it completely *incog*, being in a little nook of a box where nobody could get a glimpse of me. Dashed off again, before it was quite over, to Bedford Square, and found that already more than suspicions had begun to be entertained of

my fidelity. Lost no time in making up for the delay by sitting down immediately after Mrs. Arkwright, and singing, as well as the breathless bustle I had been in would let me.

4th. Breakfasted this morning with Rogers. The party, Sir Robert Inglis (my first time of ever meeting with him), Babbage, and Milnes, the M. P. and poet; Sir Robert Inglis very agreeable, and, like most men who are *strong* in their *opinions*, mild and gentle in *manner*. Received me with marked kindness, notwithstanding our antipodism.

9th. Dined at Miss Rogers's. Some talk with Webster, the American, who said, in a very marked manner, that it gave him great pleasure to make my acquaintance. It is always agreeable to me to be kindly received by Americans. Told him of my having received a letter within these four days from a countryman of his, dated from the Coho Falls. An odd letter, too, it is; here are some specimens of it:—"Many are the nights that have seen my head pillowed on a volume of your poems; and I am now reading your 'Life of Lord Byron,' for the thirtieth or fiftieth time, with increased zest." He afterwards breaks off into the following sally:—"But I must tell you that at this very moment, as I am writing, a beautiful young lady in the next room is singing a certain lyric, which I presume you have seen, commencing 'Oft in the still night.' I must stop and hear it. . . . Beautiful, by Jove! You have visited our country; may we not hope to see you again? Do you remember writing some years ago some stanzas at the Coho Falls? Do you remember the cataract, and the scenery adjacent? Do you remember the humble cottage in which you became domesticated? That cottage is still standing: the cataract and adjacent scenery are still the same, unless it be that the forest is shorn of its scenery. I spent a few days in the same cottage, during the past summer, and used probably to walk in the same paths which your footsteps had so often trod. I endeavoured to discover your favourite haunt, and through the assistance of the family now occupying the cottage was enabled to do so. The accompanying lines were written at the spot, and under the influence of the association and scenery. They were pencilled in a blank leaf of a volume of your poems."

10th. Breakfasted at home, and corrected a

a sheet of the "Epicurean." Have not had time to continue my corrections of the first volume of the Edition. Went to the Row for the purpose of arranging the order of the works with Tom Longman. Learned from him the astounding fact that my scribblings in verse amount to between 80 and 90,000 lines! "Lord Fanny spins a thousand such a day," and why shouldn't I? Did not get away from the Row till half-past four, making more than four hours of work.

13th. What I wrote to my dear Bess yesterday was but too true,—that the manner in which I am pulled about here in all directions, by callers, diners, authors, printers' devils, is quite too much for one little gentleman to stand.

15th. * * * Went to the British Museum, and, having been told that it was a holiday, asked for Panizzi, who was full of kindness, and told me the library should be at all times accessible to me, and that I should have a room entirely to myself, if I preferred it at any time to the public room. He then told me of a poor Irish labourer now at work about the Museum, who, on hearing the other day that I was also sometimes at work there, said he would give a pot of ale to any one who would show me to him the next time I came. Accordingly, when I was last there, he was brought where he could have a sight of me as I sat reading; and the poor fellow was so pleased, that he doubled the pot of ale to the man who performed the part of showman. Panizzi himself seemed to enjoy the story quite as much as I did. Received a note from Montalembert, full of kind and well-turned praise, which I fear I have lost. Should have been glad to transcribe it here, along with those many other tributes which I feel the more gratified by from an inward consciousness that I but little deserve them. Yet this is what, to the world, appears vanity. A most egregious though natural mistake. It is really the self-satisfied man that least minds or cares what others think of him.

16th. Breakfasted at home, and went afterwards to Rogers, who was most kind and agreeable, as he has been indeed through my whole time here. Made me stay with him. Said that, whenever he is asked "Where Mr. Moore is?" he always answers, "He is at this moment in three different places." Walked

with me on my way to Moore's, the sculptor's, where I sat for some time. Went a quarter before three to Westminster Abbey, to meet Lady Lansdowne and Lousia, for the purpose of hearing service. I sat with Milman in his prebendal seat, and they somewhere else. A beautiful anthem. Dined at Holland House. Had been asked to Lady Morgan's. Called there on my way out to say that I should be with them in the evening. Company at Holland House, Lady Keith and her charming daughter, Lady Cowper (looking as young and handsome as *any* daughter), Lord Clarence Paget, Byng, and Lady Agnes. Sat at dinner between Lady Cowper and Mademoiselle de Flahault. To my astonishment, on our joining the ladies in the evening, saw a fine pianoforte prepared for the occasion; a most new and portentous appearance at Holland House, and *why* there now, I could not understand, though I saw my own fate clearly in the apparition. Mademoiselle de Flahault played a little, and then I sang three or four songs.

19th. Some pleasant talk with Strangford about old times; the times when he and I were gay young gentlemen (and both almost equally penniless) about town, and that rogue C. was tricking us both out of the profits of our first poetical vagaries. The price of a horse (30*l.*) which C. advanced, the horse falling lame at the same time, was all that Strangford, I believe, got from him for his "Camoens," and my "Little" account was despatched in pretty much the same manner. I remember, as vividly almost as if it took place but yesterday, C. coming into my bedroom about noon one day (some ball having kept me up late the night before), and telling me that, on looking over my account with him, he found the balance against me to be about 60*l.* Such a sum was to me, at that time, almost beyond counting. I instantly started up from my pillow exclaiming, "What *is* to be done?" when he said very kindly, that if I would make over to him the copyright of "Little Poems" (then in their first flush of success) he would cancel the whole account. "My dear fellow," I exclaimed, "most willingly, and thanks for the relief you have given me." I cannot take upon myself now to say how much this made the whole amount I received for the work, but it was something very trifling; and C. himself told a friend of mine, some years after,

that he was in the receipt of nearly 200*l.* a year from the sale of that volume.

The following is the note which I mentioned having received some days since from M. de Montalembert:—

"Sir.—As I dare not hope to have the good luck of finding you at home when I call on you, I cannot refrain from writing these few lines in order to express the deep gratification I have felt in meeting you and hearing you at Mr. Milnes. Your poems have been the earliest and one of the highest objects of my admiration. They were particularly my guide and delight during my journey in Ireland, when I used to hear the 'Melodies' sung, and really felt, in every priest's house and every peasant's cabin where I halted. To hear them from the lips of their own inspired author, and to enjoy his company even for so short a time, has been a pleasure greater than I could have anticipated, and will forever remain stamped in my remembrance. Allow me to offer you the enclosed pages (which were the first productions of my humble pen), not as anything in the least worthy of you, but as a slight token of my ardent sympathy for your country and yourself. I remain, &c. &c."

August 19th. * * * A letter, in which our old friend Kenny announced his intention of coming to us, written last June, is for its cleverness and *tournaure*, well worth copying here. The application of Erasmus's words tickled my fancy (and *vanity*, of course,) exceedingly.

"MY DEAR MOORE,—I am very glad of a pretence for writing to you; for ever since the time we were roosting like a nest of owls in the ruins of Bellevue, when you were wont to clamber up the crazy staircase, to cheer me with your sunshiny visits, I have ever and anon regretted the very brief as well as the 'few and far between' renewals of our intercourse. For, how true what Erasmus has said of you, '*Thomæ Mori, quid unquam finxit natura vel mollius, vel dulcius, vel felicius?*'—and, recollecting those days, who more sensible of its truth than I am? And, again, '*Thomæ Mori, domus nihil aliud quam Musarum est domicilium.*' But this all the world knows; yet even Erasmus says nothing of the peerless lady (in addition to the Muses) of which this *domus* is also the *domicilium*; and this brings me to the 'pre-

tence' of recalling myself to your mutual recollection." He then tells us of his daughter being in our neighbourhood, and asks of Bessy to "give her once in a way a half-holiday" at Sloperton. "I know," (he adds) "I am making this request to one who has resisted ever the lures of the great world to follow the quiet ways of her own heart; and she may reckon this among the charities that are wont to occupy her." A subsequent letter announced his coming, and we had his daughter to meet him.

December 15th. * * * A thing Lord John said to me struck me as peculiarly melancholy (coming from *him*, so highly placed as he is, in every respect), though it is a sort of feeling that often comes over my own mind. On his speaking of the speed with which time seems to fly, I said to him, "If you find it so now, what will you say of it when you are as old as I am?" "I don't know," he replied, in his quiet manner; "for my part, I feel rather glad it's gone."

19th to 20th. In a letter from Miss Pigot of Southwell, was a poem written by some young lady, a relative of the writer, and addressed to me.

Lines addressed to the Author of LALLA ROOKH.

"And what is writ is writ,
Would it were worthier!"

"Enchanter, wake! thy harp that sleeps,
The muse that now neglected weeps,
Silent have lain too long;
Oh, let one lingering heaven-born note,
Like an expiring echo float,—
Arouse thee, child of song!

"Shall envious spirits smiling tell
How pass'd the mighty wizard's spell?
No, wake each slumbering strain:
Prove thy bright genius ever young,
And let thy hand in fervour flung
Strike thy own harp again!

* * * * *
"Then by thy loved, thy Emerald Isle,
By beauty's once so worshipp'd smile,
By rock, and tree, and flower;
By the green sea and the blue skies,
By woman's love and woman's eyes,
Recall thy former power!

"By thy young spirit's golden dream,
By all that once did joyous seem,
Be what thou wert of yore;
By earth beneath, by heav'n above,
By all that you have loved or love,
Awake thee, Thomas Moore!"

21st. Lord John came over to Sloperton to

see Bessy, and brought his little children with him; but, unfortunately, Bessy had gone upon some business to Devizes, and so missed him. Nothing can be more touching than to see him with these children, and he has them almost always with him. Took them up to my study, which he wished the children to see; and I there sung the "Crystal Hunters" for them, the eldest girl (who is clever, and has shown a taste for drawing,) having made a sketch from that song. In going away, he promised to bring the children again when he is sure of finding Mrs. Moore at home. The youngest little girl (his own child), who is a very odd, original little thing, sings a song about "Long live *Keen Vittoria*" in a very amusing style.

28th. Miss Fox showed me, after breakfast, a letter she had just received from Lord Holland, respecting the case of Frost, she having written to him, it appeared, in favour of leniency. Was struck with the clearness and precision of style with which he stated his own opinion on the subject, though the letter was evidently a hasty one, written just as he was about to hurry away to the Cabinet.

1840.

FEBRUARY 1st and 2nd, 1840. The following note from Miss Coutts:—"MY DEAR MR. MOORE,—I have this moment received, with the greatest pleasure, the enclosed note from Mr. Loch, through Mr. Marjoribanks. I lose no time in forwarding it to you, as I feel how anxious you must be on the subject; and I must again beg you to accept the assurance of the very great satisfaction it has given me to be of any service to you." She adds, in a postscript, "Should your son be in town any time, I should hope he will do me the favour of calling." This news gave us all great pleasure, though my poor Bessy saw in it the sad certainty of her soon losing, or at least being separated, and perhaps for ever, from the one whom (*next* to myself) she most clings to and loves.

12th, 13th. Received a letter lately from Crampton, in answer to a note I wrote him under the apprehension that he was seriously ill. Happy to find that the attack (gout) had passed off, and that he is himself (he *could not* be anything better) once more.

The following, which he tells me about Tom, is at once frightful and ridiculous:—"I forget if I told you that I strongly suspect that I have discovered the exciting cause of Tom's convulsive attack. The infernal folly of our military service (I mean, of course, that part of it which regulates the dress of soldiers) has determined that to *look* like a fighting man, an unfortunate soldier must *be* a choking man; and poor Tom, who is the pink of soldiers, wore his stock and his collar so strictly according to order, that the jugular veins were so compressed that the blood could not return from his head. I observed that his face had a violet tint, and that the veins on the temple were full to bursting. On examination, I found the collar so tight, that I could not pass the tip of my finger between it and his throat. He confessed to me that he was 'half choked,' and that he could not stoop or turn his head to the right or left. I need not tell you that I soon made him violate the Queen's order, and that he has lost all the uneasy sensations which he used to experience in his head from that hour."

16th, 17th. It had now become absolutely necessary for me to go to town on Russell's business, and accordingly I prepared, or rather my sweet active Bess, with her usual diligence, prepared everything for my departure.

19th. My first visit was to Rogers, whom I found remarkably well and full of kindness. Agreed with me that the three men now most looked to by the people of England were the Duke, Lord John, and Peel. Mentioned, *à propos* of this, what he had told me of the Duke saying to him last year, in speaking of the Ministry, "Lord John is a host in himself." When he found I had not yet engaged myself to dinner, proposed that I should call with him at Lord Ashburton's, where he was to dine, and where he was sure they would be glad to have me; but I did not much fancy it. Walked out with him, and went to Lansdowne House, where he left me. Found Lady L., Lady Louisa, and Lady Kerry. Taken by Lady K. in her carriage to Sackville Street, and thence to Brookes's, where she dropped me. A most charming person, and gains more upon me every time I see her. Something quite touching in her present position—in the world, but not *of* it. The very cheerfulness which she has

now, I am glad to see, regained, has a calm and deep sentiment mixed with it, which (even without the weeds) sufficiently tells her story. * * *

By the by, was taken to task to-day by R., who is just come from Ireland, for not making a large allowance to Tom, such as would enable him "to live like a gentleman." B., too, who was by, joined in the same cry. I told them (in the very few words I could trust myself with saying on the subject) that they little knew how hard I was pressed to make out the allowance I at present gave him, and that there were some men, as good as he or any of us, who lived on their pay, without any additional allowance at all. "Aye, these (they said) are rare instances." Then why (I asked) should not my son be one of them? But there was no use in any such appeal. He ought to be enabled to "live like a gentleman!" as if the living like a *man* was not something far higher and better. But such is the standard of station at present in England, where [as has been lately remarked] poverty is ignominious. Nor can we wonder at young, giddy schoolboys and ensigns having such notions, when their superiors and guides, the colonels, tutors, fellows of colleges, &c., all set them the example, and make money, money alone, the test of the man and the gentleman. I think I must have mentioned in this journal a somewhat parallel case to R.'s view of the matter, in what — of the Charter House said to me when it was intended that Tom should go from thence to the University. After informing me that the exhibition coming to him from the Charter House would be, on an average, about 100*l.* a year, he coolly added, "To that you would have to give him from yourself only 150*l.* a year." That is the *half* of the *only* income (my pension) that ever I possess without working hard for it; aye, and sharing my earnings all the time with almost everybody related to me. If I had thought but of "living like a *gentleman*" (as those colonels and tutors style it), what would have become of my dear father and mother, of my sweet sister Nell, of my admirable Bessy's mother?

23rd. Met Hume, by appointment, at Brookes's. Went with me to Paternoster Row, where I had fixed to meet T. Longman. Returned in an omnibus; Hume to proceed home, and I to pay a visit to the Duke of Sus-

sex at Kensington. Buckland was with the Duke, and I had to wait a little time. Found that Buckland had been showing and explaining to him a new invention for the taking off or copying any printing or engraving by means of electricity. Bank notes, for instance, can be thus copied instantly and accurately. Could hardly refrain from throwing in the pun of "*flash* notes" while he was describing this to me. Complained strongly of the encroachment there was now going on of the spiritual on the temporal, and the confusion it was producing.

24th. Dined at Holland House. A good deal of talk about Erskine, and the particulars of his first brief, much of which, as now told by Rogers, was quite different from the account given me of it by Jekyll; but Rogers, it seems, took it all down from Erskine's own lips. Came away with Rogers, and went to Lady Minto's: a large assembly. Saw there many a familiar face, to which I could annex no name; and while some persons, I dare say, were passed by formally whom I once knew well and intimately, there was one lady whose hand I seized cordially (on her making some movement which I took for recognition), and it turned out that she was an utter stranger to me. Luckily, however, I was not such to her, for on my apologising, she said with much sweetness and good breeding, "Mr. Moore must be well aware that to be addressed by him, whether known or unknown, cannot be otherwise than a compliment."

25th. Performed some commissions, and went down to Paternoster Row (having first made my excuse to the Milmans for Friday). Worked at the Edition, and transposed a good deal of the matter. They think of publishing the first volume in April, which is alarming. Found from Tom Longman that there is some chance of their being able to bring out the "*History*," some time or other, in a better shape than that vile Lardnerian *format*. Showed me the items of the expense of our forthcoming edition (the *Poems*), amounting to more than 7000*l.*!

26th. Went to call upon Marjoribanks, and on my mentioning the desire I had to get Russell's appointment changed, if possible, from Madras to Bengal, he advised me to go at once to Loch, the director, myself, and ask him to do it for me. Wrote a letter for me to take

to Loch, very strongly and kindly expressed, and I instantly set off with it to the India House. Saw Mr. Loch, who received me most cordially (though we never, that I know, set eyes on each other before), and in a very few minutes my object was accomplished. On my mentioning what my wish was, he said, "I rather think I have got *one* Bengal appointment left;" then ringing the bell, he ordered the person who answered it to bring him some paper which he described, and having run his eye down this paper, said, to my very great pleasure, "I find I *have* one Bengal appointment left, Mr. Moore, and it is very much at your service." After a few words more of conversation I took my leave; and thus was dispatched in a few minutes a favor which (from knowing no channel through which to apply) I had given up all thoughts of seeking for. Called on Marjoribanks on my way back to say how much obliged I was to him as well as to his friend.

27th. Dined at Landowne House; taken by Rogers. Company, Bobus Smith, Lord Ilchester, and one or two more. Bobus exceedingly agreeable, and said several very lively things: short, apt, and pregnant. Took me away in his carriage, and left me at Miss Berry's, where I found his brother, Sydney, in full plume and play. Two very remarkable men; both wits of the highest order, but of entirely different *genres*.

29th. Set off to Cornhill and secured a cabin for Russell, near midships; I suppose a good position. In my way back called upon Jones, who is employed upon a sketch from my "Fudges in England." Am sorry that he chose a subject from that work. He mentioned his surprise that Maclise should have found any difficulty in meeting with good subjects in the "Irish Melodies." To him (Jones) "all my poetry appeared to abound with pictures." Might have told him in return that his painting abounded with poesy.

February 6th to 8th. At work, and looking over my Journal, many parts of which brought tears from me, particularly the details of my dear child Anastasia's death. Much struck, too, by the falling off there has been, from various causes, of many of my former friendships and intimacies, people with whom I once lived familiarly and daily, being now seldom seen by me, and that but passingly and coldly. This partly owing to the estrangements pro-

duced by politics, and to the greater rarity of my own visits to Town, of late years; but, altogether, it is saddening.

14th. In thanking Talfourd for a copy of his collected speeches on the Copyright Question, mentioned that I had once intended to request of him to take some opportunity of stating to the House the resolution I had from the first formed, not to avail myself of the clause once contemplated, giving a reverting interest to the author. In replying to my letter, he says, "I think Lord John Russell, in the few remarks he made the session before last on the Copyright Bill, alluded to your generous determination not to avail yourself of the reverting interest which it then contemplated, but I shall be too proud of gracing my cause by mention of your name, not to avail myself of any opportunity that may arise more distinctly to express your feelings; which cannot be irrelevant, as it will show the disinterested spirit in which the general cause of literature is advocated by a poet who has no personal interest to bias him."

March 16th to 18th. Received about the latter end of this month some letters from Ireland respecting this strange movement in the temperance direction which is now in progress there. Had but a few days before sent a squib to "The Chronicle," on this very subject, but not in a tone I fear that my correspondents would approve of. One of them, a Quaker, rather a sensible sort of a fellow—at least sensible enough to feel some doubts respecting the stability of this anti-whiskey enthusiasm—presses me much to lend my aid to the cause. The other, a priest, also invokes my pen. "And oh!" he exclaims, "if it were not too much that, in addition to this rather pious effusion (a card he had sent me to add some lines to), you would write us a ballad of a few verses for our Irish peasant boys and girls, who are to walk with their medals on the 15th of August." The Quaker pretty strongly hints that I *owe* some reparation of this sort, for the many effusions in the opposite direction which I have been guilty of.

April 9th. In Town. Sallied forth after breakfast, Bessy, Russell, and myself, to visit the ship in which our poor boy is to be taken away from us. Called at Lubbock's, in whose hands I had placed the *339l.* remaining of the sum destined for the outfit, &c. Went from

thence to the East India Docks, where the ship was lying. The operation of getting Bessy up the step-ladder that led us on board, added not a little to my exceeding nervousness on the occasion. Had never myself been on board so immense a vessel: the accommodations for passengers almost as roomy as those in a good-sized house. Forget whether I have mentioned that Sir Lionel Smith, the new governor of the Mauritius, goes out in this same ship, together with his family, a wife and daughters. The cabins prepared for them quite a suite of rooms, and very handsomely furnished. But our dear Russell's berth was, of course, the chief object of our attention, and I was most agreeably surprised by its roominess. We had determined from the first, that though increasing so much the expense, he should have a cabin to himself, and we now had all his things brought and stowed away under the mother's eye comfortably. The lieutenant, a hearty, good-natured Irishman, and, even before he knew who I was, full of most cheering kindness. But when he reappeared, his increased cordiality showed most *comfortably* what he had heard in the interval, and with the captain it was exactly the same case. Indeed, every step I take in this to me most painfully interesting task (though painful chiefly on the dear mother's account), makes me feel with gratitude the value of a friendly fame like mine. I call it friendly, because, from the manner in which it manifests itself, I cannot help feeling that the tribute is as much, nay, I should hope much *more*, to the man than to the author.

Had written to Lady Holland to tell her of my arrival, but expressing doubts of my being able to see her during my stay. Got in return a note from her, in which, after naming some days for me to dine with her, if I can, she adds, "I hope Mrs. Moore is in good health and heart, for I fear it is a pang to separate from her son which will require both."

14th. * * * It being now time for our dear boy to leave us, a few parting words were said, and he then set off in a boat to the ship, which was to be towed by steamers to the Downs. As long as the vessel continued in sight my poor Bessy remained at the window with a telescope, watching for a glimpse of her dear boy, and telling me all she saw, or *thought* she saw, him doing. Corry having set off in

the coach, we hired a little open fly in the town, and got comfortably to Town in the evening.

15th. Forgot what I did this day, except walking about a little with Bessy, and (after I had left her at home) calling upon Rogers. In speaking of Bessy, he said, "We are told marriages are made in heaven, and certainly none but God Almighty could have brought you two together. She has beauty, sense,"—and so he went on most kindly about her.

June 16th. Found the following verses addressed to me, in 1823, on reading the "Loves of the Angels," by Miss Lefanu:—

"Beloved of heaven, how passing bright,
The wreath thy threefold lay has won!
So varying shines with hallow'd light.
The rising, ris'n, and setting sun.

"To Lea, first, the spell-word giv'n,
Teaches to range yon stary sphere;
Virtue a mortal lights to heaven,
While Vice detains an Angel here.

"A bolder chord now shakes the lyre;
See Rubi in his radiance move,
Where Lilis kneels, with soul on fire,
That lov'd to learn, and learn'd to love.

"But hark! what notes, at day's decline
With sweetest, holiest influence, steal,
And all a *seraph's* flame divine,
And all a *mortal's* love reveal!

"The closing strains, like parting day,
A flood of soften'd radiance pour;
For Virtue points the moral lay,
And Genius twines the wreath for Moore."

July 15th to 17th. Received from the Crammers a copy of Bunting's newly published collection of Irish airs, which they have often written to me about, as likely (they hoped) to furnish materials for a continuation of the Melodies. Tried them over with some anxiety; as had they contained a sufficient number of beautiful airs to make another volume, I should have felt myself bound to do the best I could with them, though still tremblingly apprehensive lest a failure should be the result. Was rather relieved, I confess, on finding that, with the exception of a few airs, which I have already made use of, the whole volume is a mere mess of trash. Considering the thorn I have been in poor Bunting's side, by supplanting him in the one great object of his life (the connection of his name with the fame of Irish music), the temper in which he *now* speaks of my success (for some years since he was rather terragant on the subject), is not a little creditable to his good nature and good sense. Speaking of the

use which I made of the first volume of airs published by him, he says, "They were soon adopted as vehicles for the most beautiful popular songs that have perhaps ever been composed by any lyric poet." He complains strongly, however, of the alterations made in the original airs, and laments that "the work of the poet was accounted of so paramount an interest that the proper order of song-writing was, in many instances, inverted, and instead of the words being adapted to the tune, the tune was too often adapted to the words,—a solecism which could never have happened had the reputation of the writer not been so great as at once to carry the tunes he designed to make use of altogether out of their old sphere, among the simple and tradition-loving people of the country with whom, in truth, many of the new melodies, to this day, are hardly suspected to be themselves." He lays the blame of all these alterations upon Stevenson; but poor Sir John was entirely innocent of them, as the whole task of selecting the airs, and in some instances shaping them thus, in particular passages, to the general sentiment which the melody appeared to me to express, was undertaken solely by myself. Had I not ventured on these very allowable liberties, many of the songs now most known and popular would have been still sleeping, with all their authentic dress about them, in Mr. Bunting's first volume. The same charge is brought by him respecting those airs which I took from the second volume of his collection. "The beauty of Mr. Moore's words," he says, "in a great degree atones for the violence done by the musical arranger to many of the airs which he has adopted."

18th to 22nd. A thought having crossed my mind that Lord Lansdowne, in accepting the dedication of my collected works, might have forgotten the numerous squibs and satires with which some of the volumes must swarm, I thought it as well to bring this circumstance to his recollection, and therefore wrote to him to say that, though I myself saw no reason why a dedicatee should be considered responsible for all the freaks of his dedicating, yet as it might be a matter of question, I thought it right to submit the point for his consideration. Received in answer from him the following letter, which I shall give entire, as containing the first account we received (though a note

soon followed from Lady Lansdowne giving Bessy the same intelligence) of the acceptance of Shelburne's proposal by Lady Georgiana Herbert.

"MY DEAR MOORE. * * * You will allow I had some excuse for hurry and delay, when I tell you (what I am sure you will be glad to hear) that, in addition to my expected avocations during the day, arose others unexpectedly from the circumstance of Shelburne's having proposed to and been accepted by Lady Georgiana Herbert in the course of the morning; an event which, as she is, I believe, a very amiable person, gives Lady Lansdowne and myself pleasure. But I have wandered from the dedication, which I should be very sorry to decline on the ground you mention. By receiving it I am not responsible for all that the volumes contain; and if I was, as I could only be made a party to anything that might be thought exceptionable, by being also a party to that far greater portion which all will join in admiring, I should be a gainer by it, independently of the value I attach to the expression of your friendship and kindness."

August 2nd. In London. * * * In passing through Brompton showed them the house which Bessy and I occupied on our marriage, and where, at a breakfast we gave a few months after, I introduced her to Lady Donegal, Miss Godfrey, Rogers, Corry, and one or two other old friends. "How handsome she must have been then!" said Lady Elizabeth; and she *was* certainly, in *my* eyes, *very* handsome.

Dined at Lansdowne House. A dinner of men only, Lady L. being at Bowood. Company: Macaulay, Lord Clarendon, Lord Clanricarde, Rogers, young Fortescue, and Fonblanque. Sat between Macaulay and Rogers. Of Macaulay's range of knowledge anything may be believed, so wonderful is his memory. His view of Goethe as being totally devoid of the moral sense as well as of real feeling; his characters, therefore, mere abstractions, having nothing of the man in them, and, in this respect, so unlike Schiller's. Such, at least as far as I could collect it, was his view of Goethe. Some conversation with Fonblanque, who, in speaking to me of my own writings, remarked how full of idiom they are. "There was in no writer (he said) so much idiom." This odd enough, as I told him, consi-

dering that I am an Irishman. Take for granted, however, that he had chiefly my lighter, playful style of writing in his mind.

28th. Received soon after I returned from town a letter from Lord Holland, sending me a translation by himself of some Italian verses (Metastasio's, I believe) which I recollected his mentioning to me when we last met. The following is his letter:—

"DEAR MOORE,—

"Chì ciecamente crede
Impegna a serbar fede ;
Che sempre aspetta inganni
Alletta ad ingannar."

"I said I could not translate them, nor have I to my fancy. But, *tant bien que mal*, I have thus compassed the job:—

"Who trusts in those with whom he deals
Inspires the same good faith he feels:
But he who still suspects deceit,
Tempt others in their turn to cheat."

"I have another version which perhaps renders the thought more correctly, but which seems to me, I know not why, more prosaic and more like a flat epigram than a pathetic stanza. and yet less natural and easy. Here it is, *shorter* (?) than the other by *two words* (?) —

"Who trusts in all with whom he deals
Invites the very faith he feels;
Who constantly expects deceit
Lures those he so suspects to cheat."

"'Tis thus I turn th' Italian song,
And deem the meaning is not wrong;
But, with rough English to combine
The sweetness that's in every line,
Asks for your muse and not for mine.
Sense only will not quit the score,
We must have that and a *Little More*."

"Yours, VASSAL HOLLAND."

29th. Another letter from Lord Holland (about the 16th, I think, of this month) as follows:—

"DEAR MOORE,—A little helped by Rogers, and a little by my own reflection, I now read my translation thus:—

"Who trusts in all with whom he deals
Inspires the confidence he feels;
But he who still suspects deceit
Tempt others in their turn to cheat."

"Yours, VASSAL HOLLAND."

"I send you too a melancholy epigram, of which I have, alas! seen many witness the truth:—

"A minister's answer is always so kind!
I starve, and he tells me, he'll keep me in mind.
Half his promise, God knows, would my spirit's restore,—
Let him keep me, and, faith, I will ask for no more."

This epigram very good. Wrote to tell him I thought so.

September 23rd, 24th. Another poem has just turned up (in the general rummage I am now making among my old papers), of the source of which I am entirely ignorant.

IMPROMPTU, ON THEIR REPEALING THE ACT AGAINST
WITCHCRAFT IN IRELAND.

"So you think, then, the days of witchcraft are past,
That in Ireland you're safe from the magical art?
Those who hold this belief may rue it at last,
When the force of a spell is found in the heart."

"That the maidens of Erin in *witchery* deal,
By those who have seen them can ne'er be denied,
While the *spell* of their bards o'er the senses will steal,
As by some hath been felt, and by *Moore* hath been tried."

"Then think not to 'scape, on such dangerous ground,
Nor fancy that magic and witchcraft are o'er,
For in Ireland those powers will ever abound,
While her *Witches* are *fair*, and her Wizard is *Moore*!"

October 5th. Still searching among old papers. Found the following verses:—

LINES SUGGESTED BY THE PERUSAL OF MR. MOORE'S POEM
IN THE "METROPOLITAN," ON RECEIVING THE GIFT OF
THE INKSTAND OF THE LATE REV. GEORGE CRABBE.

"And canst thou, Moore, thou gifted one,
Each muse presiding o'er thy birth,
Deem, mid the courses of the sun,
Thyself alone a child of earth?"

"Perish the thought! tho' Albion mourns
Full many a star's departed light,
To thee, with hope renew'd, she turns
To shed a splendour o'er the night."

"Though hush'd in holiest, last repose,
The 'Village' bard, the rural sage,
Who sang the peasant's joys and woes,
From blameless youth to reverend age."

"Though on the northern blast is borne
A fitful wail, on viewless wings,
And spirit voices, plaintive, mourn
A master-lyre's all broken strings."

"Though he, of flight like eagle strong,
And with delirious anguish brave,
Hath pour'd his tortur'd soul in song,
And fond in distant Greece a grave."

"While poesy her choicest rays
Concentres round thy favour'd head,
We hail the living minstrel's lays,
Nor miss the living or the dead."

"Then deem not, thou all-gifted one,
Each muse presiding o'er thy birth,
Among the courses of the sun,
Thyself alone a child of earth."

21st. Went to Bowood to dinner. Found, besides those Lady L. had mentioned (Lady

Cunliffe; Lady Morley, and Rogers), Lord John and his children, Lady Macdonald and Macaulay. The dinner and evening very agreeable. Macaulay wonderful; never, perhaps, was there combined so much talent with so marvellous a memory. To attempt to record his conversation one must be as wonderfully gifted with memory as himself.

23rd. While I was dressing this morning, the *maître d'hôtel* came to my room with the distressing and startling intelligence that Lord Holland was dead! He had been sent by Lady Lansdowne to tell me, with a request also that I would inform Mr. Rogers of the sad news. Went immediately to Rogers's room, who was equally shocked with myself at the sad intelligence. Met all at breakfast. Lord Lansdowne showed me a letter from Dr. Holland, giving an account of all the particulars of the death, which took place after a short illness. My own opinion was that our party ought to separate, but I found, to my surprise, that both Lord and Lady Lansdowne's wish was that we should stay. Having expressed my opinion to Rogers, he thought right to mention it to Lady Lansdowne, but her earnest wish was that we should stay, and Rogers returned to me crying like a child. It is right to say, however, that both he and all felt (as who would not feel?) that a great light had gone out, and that not only the friends of such a man, but the whole community in general, had suffered an irreparable loss.

31st. Rogers mentioned, among other agreeable things, a curious parallel found in the "Odyssey" to the well-known story of the Indian chief at Niagara, who was lying asleep in his boat just above the current of the Falls, when some wicked person cut the rope by which his boat was fastened to the shore, and he was carried down the cataract. The poor Indian, on waking up, had made every effort, by means of his paddle, to stop the career of the canoe, but finding it to be all hopeless, and that he was hurrying to the edge, he took a draught out of his brandy flask, wrapped his mantle about him, and seating himself composedly, thus went down the Falls. The parallel to this in Homer is when the companions of Ulysses, in spite of his precautions, let loose the Bag of the Winds, and when, with the same dignified composure, Ulysses submits to his fate. The natural action of wrapping

round the mantle is the same in both. Cowper thus translates the passage:—

"I then awaking, in my noble mind
Stood doubtful, whether from my vessel's side
Immers'd to perish in the flood, or calm
To endure my sorrows and consent to live.
I calm endured them; but around my head
Winding my mantle, laid me down below."

December 1st to 30th. The whole of this month has been passed in such a state of agitation, from the pressure of business, the calls of society, and last, and worst, the news we received of our dear Russell's illness, that I have not had the time or the heart to record anything in these pages, and must now only give a hurried retrospect of the whole interval with such extracts from letters as I can get into the few remaining leaves of this volume. We had received most kind letters from Lord Auckland and Miss Eden, announcing to us our boy's arrival at Calcutta, and their having taken him to lodge with themselves at the Government House. The following is a part of Lord Auckland's letter, dated September 17th, 1840:—"MY DEAR MOORE,—Your letter, announcing the departure of your boy from England, reached me about three weeks after his arrival in Calcutta, and I and my sisters had already been glad, in the recollection of you and of the many happy hours we have passed together, to welcome him in India. I can, as you are aware, be of no substantial advantage to so young an officer, but I have had pleasure in giving him a room in the Government House for so long as he may remain in this city; and I have endeavoured to impress him with the precepts which I look upon as most important,—namely, that he should study the native languages, that he should expose himself as little as possible to the sun, and that he should apply to the doctor upon the smallest ailment till he shall have learned to deal with himself and the climate. He shall have letters from me when he goes up the country, and I will endeavour, even at a distance, to have some cognizance of his progress. He has been in all things most amiable, and every one here has liked him." Lord Auckland then proceeds to tell me of an illness Russell had had, in consequence of going out fishing, but from which he had then recovered, and adds, "I have not pressed his immediate appointment to do duty with a regiment near to the Presiden-

cies. It is as well that he should remain here two or three weeks more, and perfectly recover strength; and in the mean time the severities of our season will be passing away." In addition to this most friendly letter, there came also one from Miss Eden to Bessy, containing equally comfortable and gratifying details. By the next mail, there came another letter from Lord Auckland, dated October 19th, which was as follows:—"MY DEAR MOORE,—Your boy has given us a fright, but he is now doing exceedingly well. He was recommended change of air soon after I last wrote to you, and we sent him up the river Naper, at Moorshedabad, where he was hospitably and kindly received, and was for a short time without fever. But he again became ill, and rather seriously so; and, at his own request, he returned to us, and ever since his return he has been daily improving, and we may be confident that, in another week, he will be as well as he was when he first landed here. We will keep him till he is quite strong, and I will do my best to get him appointed to a regiment stationed in the dry climate of the upper provinces. His attack here may have been accidental; but I think it desirable that he should not pass a bad season in the damp atmosphere of Bengal. For the next few months, however, the weather here is not likely to be oppressive or unhealthy. I write these few lines at the last moment before our overland mail goes out. Most truly," &c. &c. This I look upon to be *thorough friendship*, and such as, if I lived to the age of Methuselah, I could never forget. In this state, between hope and fear, have the poor mother and myself been left ever since the receipt of the foregoing letter, which, I must add, was accompanied by one from Russell himself, of an equally encouraging character. Still, the fears predominate with us both, and I know not that I ever have passed so painful an interval. (Written January 10th, 1841.)

I forget what more I did in December, with the exception of the occupation which my monthly volumes and their prefaces pretty abundantly give me.

31st. The following timely suggestion is I think worth preserving:—

"Sir,—Previously to the publication of 'Lalla Rookh,' in the collection of your poems now issuing from the press, allow me to suggest what many of your readers, as well as myself,

would consider a great improvement; that is, to versify the short introductory notice to each part. To emerge from the splendour of poetry into the rapidness of prose is a terrible damper. So pray be propitious to this humble petition of your obedient servant, IGNORUS."

Received a letter from Mr. Dudley Costello, in consequence of my mention of him in my second preface, in which he says, "By this act you have done for me what no exertion of mine could ever have accomplished: you have given me the assurance that my name *must* descend to posterity, and that in the most enviable manner, by linking it with the associations which you have rendered immortal." * * *

The following scrap was sent me lately by Moran, extracted from Miss Lloyd's "Sketches of Bermuda," published by Cochran, London. "I had the pleasure of being introduced to the family of Nea, celebrated in 'Moore's Odes.' Nea is no more (dated August 16th, 1819), but she still lives in song and in the fond recollection of her friends. From a likeness which I saw, I should judge her to have been a fine woman; but it is said that she was indebted for her fame less to her beauty than to the fascinating and easy gracefulness of her manner." I should like to know whether they have hit upon the *right* Nea, though it would be rather hard for them to do so, as the *ideal* Nea of my "Odes" was made out of *two real* ones.

1841.

[THE year 1841 was to Moore a year of much affliction; his son, Russell, who had always been a comfort to his parents, was not strong enough to bear the trial of an Indian climate and the military profession. Lord Auckland and his sisters upon hearing of the boy's illness took him into the Government House at Calcutta, and bestowed upon him every care which kindness and friendship could provide. Miss Eden, who alone survives of the family who were at Calcutta, remembers with pleasure and regret the amiable character of the poor boy, when he was in her brother's house as an invalid. Miss Eden herself was sure to do all that good sense and kindness of heart could do in such a case. But his constitution was too delicate to carry him on to manhood. Perhaps, as Anastasia, with an English home, fell an early victim to disease,

Russell would not have survived long even in his native climate. But at all events, the service and the climate of India hastened his death.—J. R.]

January 4th, 1841. The Lansdownes anxious that Bessy and I should have gone there to-day; but she is in such a state of suspense about the intelligence from Russell, that I could not prevail on her to leave home.

7th. Brabant left us after breakfast. In the evening took place the usual annual ball on this day, to the servants and tenants, which Bessy enjoyed so much last year, and would now, had not her anxiety for news from Russell prevented her from coming. I danced with Mademoiselle, and went down an English country-dance of fifty couple on the stone floor, no trifling achievement for a sexagenary.

From the last date till the day on which I am now writing (July 6th), a long interruption has occurred in this Journal; the first of any such length that has yet broken the chain of these records. The chief cause of this has been the monthly pressure upon me of the successive volumes of the new edition of my Works, which, slight as may appear what I have done for it, has kept me the whole time in a state of busy worry, and quite convinced me (if I wanted any such additional proof) of my utter unfitness for *periodical* labours. In addition to the responsible task of revising and correcting all my past writings, the series of prefaces which I rather rashly volunteered to write, imposed upon me a duty which, both from its difficulty and its periodical recurrence, has left me no peace nor pause; and I rejoice most heartily that I am now so near the end of it.

Among the worrying mishaps I have had lately, was the miscarriage of the MS. of one of my prefaces, after my having destroyed all the rough copy of it. Most marvellously, however, I was able to recall the whole to my memory, and on the MS. being afterwards found, I found I had departed hardly by a syllable from the original copy.

Being anxious to introduce in one of my prefaces some anecdotes about my old friend William Spencer, and our *Poluphiletic* revels together, I meant to take as a peg to hang them upon, his translation into Italian of one of my

songs, "The wreath you wove;" but on consulting Frederick Montgomery, and getting Rossetti to look over the verses, I found they broke Priscian's head even more grievously than I had supposed, and were not fit to be published. It may be worth while here, as a curiosity, to preserve both Spencer's translation, and Rossetti's remarks on it; placing first the original song, one of my juvenile productions.

ORIGINAL SONG.

"The wreath you wove, the wreath you wove,
Is fair—but oh, how fair,
If Pity's hand had stolen from Love
One leaf to mingle there!

"If every rose with gold were tied,
Did gems for dewdrops fall,
One faded leaf where Love had sigh'd
Were sweetly worth them all.

"The wreath you wove, the wreath you wove,
Our emblem well may be;
Its bloom is yours, but hopeless Love
Must keep its tears from me."

SPENCER'S TRANSLATION, WITH ROSSETTI'S REMARKS ON IT.

"Son soavi quei fioretti¹
Ch'annodasti per me,²
L'imago degli affetti
Però tra lor non è.³

"Perciò ch'i nostri amori⁴
La sorte fa languir,
Che veggia almen i fiori⁵
Con essi impallidir!

"Se l'oro i lacci fece
La ghirlanda a legar,
Se di rugiada in vece
Vidi gemme cascar,⁶

"Un foglio inaridito⁷
Ch'amore pianse in su⁸
Da me saria gradito⁹
Oh quanto e quanto più!"

¹ "Questo verso è ottonario, mentre debb' essere settenario; 'scave' in italiano è di tre sillabe e non mai di due.

² "Questo verso non ha convenevole accento; l'avrebbe se potesse legarsi 'annodasti,' ma sarebbe strana parola.

³ "Questi due ultimi versi son buoni. 'Imago' è più usato che *imago*, che ha intanto qualche esempio. 'Non v'è' suona più italiano. ⁴ "Perciò che' non è voce poetica, nè è quella che il senso chiederebbe: 'poiché' dovrebbe dirsi, ma il ritmo non l'ammette.

⁵ "Ch'io veggia' determina meglio la prima persona ed allontana l'oscurità.

⁶ "Questa strofa non presenta netto e limpido il senso, e il secondo e il quarto verso non son ben colligati. Sarebbe stato bene che mi fosse stato mandato l'originale Inglese, poichè non son sicuro di essere entrato nell'idea vera dell'autore. Io intendo che il nastro che annodava il mazzolino fosse di seta e d'oro, e che tra i fiori sieno stati mescolate della gemme, se pure questa parola non è qui metaforica.

⁷ "Se due 'fogli' di carta e 'foglia d'albero,' di pianta, di fiore e parmi che l'idea esiga la seconda e non il primo.

⁸ "Sintassi non Italiana; sarebbe tale se dicesse, 'Su cui piano amore.'

⁹ "Se gli ultimi versi s'inverissero se guadagnerebbe la dizione, ma perderebbe il ritmo che richiede la rima troncata al termine della st. 4a."

April. On the 12th of this month set off for London, taking up with me a part of the preface for our next volume, meaning to finish it in town. Arrived in London between three and four. As I made no memorandums during all the time I remained in town, I shall here give extracts from my letters to Bessy to supply their place :—

"Brookes's, twenty minutes past four, April 12th. I have had a most amusing journey of it, my companions being my old eloquent friend H. of Calne (who made me laugh almost as much as you sometimes do), and our new neighbour V., who I am glad to tell you is a very nice fellow, and one likely to make a vrey good neighbour.

"13th. This morning I breakfasted with Miss Rogers (having walked there with Rogers), to meet Barbara and her husband. Barbara herself but little altered, and he seems a very excellent fellow. They pressed our visiting them in Worcestershire most urgently and kindly.

"14th. You will rejoice to hear that all my fears and scruples about my prefaces have been removed. I hear they are liked exceedingly, and the only fault found is my not telling enough. This is a most agreeable relief to me. My poor old friend Douglas (the Admiral) is, I fear, near his last breath; but this attack must have come on, I think, quite suddenly, as Mrs. Douglas and his daughters left him at his sisters' yesterday, and went to the country. I saw the sisters about half an hour since, and he was then insensible; but they said if he revived at all, they were sure he would be glad to see me, and would send for me. * * * * *

"29th. Went with the Milmans to Miss Berry's last *soirée* for the season. On my saying something to Miss Berry of the liberty I had taken, as an old friend, of coming there unasked, she reverted, in her odd way, to the early days of our acquaintance, and said, 'I didn't so much like you in those days. You were too—too—what shall I say?' 'Too brisk and airy, perhaps,' said I. 'Yes,' she replied, taking hold of one of my grizzly locks. 'I like you better since you have got these.' I could then overhear her, after I left her, say to the person with whom I had found her speaking, 'That's as good a creature as ever lived.'"

* * * * *
June 21st. Set off on my long-promised visit to the Godfreys in Staffordshire, taking Cheltenham and Corry in my way. Started in a coach, thinking I was soon to have railway, but found I had got into the "wrong box;" and after an accident with our horses, which delayed us at Chippenham more than an hour, had nothing but coaching all day, and did not arrive at Gloucester till between six and seven in the evening. Was most lucky, however, in the weather, and would not have lost the succession of beautiful scenes I passed through, for twice the speed of the railway. Took the mail at Gloucester and got to Cheltenham between eight and nine, not having had anything for twelve hours, except a biscuit and glass of sherry during our stay at Chippenham.

22nd. Going about all day with Corry, his sister Connellan, and her very gentleman-like and agreeable son, seeing all the pretty places of this most beautiful town and neighbourhood. Dined with Corry and Connellan at Mr. Ramsay's (whom I had never before seen), brother to Lord Pannure. A small party, and the daughter of our host pretty, which was at least something to look at. Sung a good deal in the evening for them.

23rd. Started by railroad to Hughes's. A good story, by the by, of Williams's (the circulating library man), of a stranger passing through Cheltenham, who wishing to devote the few hours he had to stay there in visiting the scene of the great battle of Worcester walked out there alone, and having inquired of some man he met as to the spot on which the battle had been fought, was accompanied thither by this person, who at once entered with much communicativeness into the subject of his inquiry; showed him exactly where the battle had taken place, mentioned how soon the first blood was drawn, and quite delighted the antiquarian with the minuteness of his historical knowledge. "It was certainly a great battle," exclaimed the latter. "Oh, wonderful, sir," answered his informant; "nothing but Spring's wind could have carried him through it." Had received a note from Barbara to say that I should find Hughes, her husband, with the carriage for me, at Wolverhampton; and there he was. Poor Mary Godfrey much affected at our

first meeting. She has lost the use of her limbs; but in all other respects is as much herself as could be possibly expected, after such a lapse of time.

July 1st to 6th. Have just found the note my poor Bess wrote to me, in sending up to town Tom's bill upon me for 112*l*. "I can hardly bring myself to send you the enclosed. It has caused me tears and sad thoughts, but to *you* it will bring these, and hard, *hard* work. Why do people sigh for children? They know not what sorrow will come with them. How *can* you arrange for the payment? and what could have caused him to require such a sum? Take care of yourself; and if you write to him, for God's sake let him know that it is the very last sum you will or *can* pay for him. My heart is sick when I think of you, and the fatigue of mind and body you are always kept in. Let me know how you think you can arrange this." I have already mentioned the difficulties to which this bill of Tom's reduced me: and I had not been more than a week or two at home, when another bill of his, drawn upon me at three months, for 100*l*., was sent to me for acceptance. This blow coming so quick after the other, was, indeed, most overwhelming. It seems on his arrival at Bombay, he found that his regiment had been ordered on active service, and he was accordingly obliged to provide such an outfit as would enable him to join it. I could not do otherwise, of course, than accept the bill; but how I am to pay it, when due, Heaven only knows.

The following note from the priest who wrote the article in the "Dublin Review" on my writings, reached me about the beginning of this month.

"Respected Sir,

"It gives me the sincerest pleasure to find that you are pleased with the short article in the 'Dublin Review' on your writings; for I feared very much that, from my slender acquaintance with English literature, especially the poetical part thereof, I could hardly produce anything that would not be unworthy of the subject. What you are pleased to term, the 'overplus of praise' was certainly not meant or believed by me to be such. The little I said of your Irish Melodies and

Humorous Poems falls short of what I conscientiously think of their merits, especially as regards the Melodies. Allow me to add, that I feel highly honoured by your kind note, and by the too flattering wish you express of knowing me personally. It is many, many years since I first longed to catch a glimpse of Thomas Moore. Circumstances which have occurred within the last month, obliged me to delay the article which I promised on your 'History of Ireland,' and which I would not have thought of undertaking but for the earnest request of that most pious and most learned prelate, Dr. Wiseman. The same circumstances compel me (sorely against my inclination) to wear my mask till next autumn. I shall then eagerly seize the first opportunity thus so unexpectedly offered of gratifying one of the warmest wishes of my earliest years. In the mean time, I have the honour to be, most respectfully,

"Your faithful Servant,

"AUTHOR OF THE '*Art. on Thomas Moore.*'"

August 10th. A visit from our friend Philip Crampton, who kindly made an effort to give us one of the few days he had to spare, during his short English trip. His first intention was to come down by railroad, eat an early dinner with us, and then return by another train so as to accomplish his other dinner engagement in town. This feat, as being one worthy of his dash and activity, I was rather anxious he should perform. But as it was, we had longer enjoyment of his society; and in addition to the pleasure of having him for a night under our roof, he gave me most cheering assurances as to the state of Bessy's health. After a long conversation with her on the subject of the attack she had two or three years since, he assured me that her health was, he thought, improved, and certainly much better than when he last saw her, about ten years ago. This all very delightful to me to hear. Sat talking together till a late hour.

18th. Having arranged with Hume to take a short trip with him to Ireland, started for Lacock Abbey this morning on my way to town. The day beautiful, and I found grouped in full sunshine upon the grass before the house, Kit Talbot, Lady E. Fielding, Lady Charlotte and Mrs. Talbot, for the purpose of

being photogenized by Henry Talbot, who was busily preparing his apparatus. Walked alone for awhile about the gardens, and then rejoined the party to see the result of the operation. But the portraits had not turned out satisfactorily, nor (oddly enough) were they at all like; whereas, a dead likeness is, in general, the sure, though frightful result of the Daguerre process. The evening agreeable.

19th. Breakfasted comfortably (thanks to the railroad) at ten o'clock, with Mrs. Talbot only, the rest of the party being still in their bedrooms, and then set off in their covered cart to Chippenham, from whence I started in the twelve o'clock train. Was lucky enough to have Poulett Scrope for companion, who was very agreeable. Took up my quarters in Sackville Street. Called on Rogers, who had nearly finished a solitary dinner. Wanted to have more dressed for me, but I made my escape and called at Burdett's, who asked me to join him and his daughter Joanna at dinner. But this did not look very promising, and I declined. Thought then of Bryan, who it was probable I should find returned from Ireland, and an evening with him would be at least doing my duty, but I found (though expected to-day) he was not yet arrived. It was now past seven o'clock, and my chances of getting anything better than a solitary cutlet at Brookes's had become desperate. Resolved however to go and leave a card at Lord John's before I turned in for my cutlet. Lord John not at home; but I had hardly given in my card, and resumed my seat in the cab, when the servant looking out, said, "Here's his Lordship coming, sir." "How long have you been in town?" asked Lord John. "About an hour or two." "Then you can dine with me?" "Why, I've not dressed, and it is now past seven o'clock." "Oh we shan't dine till near eight, and you've got a cab." So I instantly took the hint, jumped into my vehicle, and in the course of about an hour found myself seated at table with a large party of Mintos, Russells, Villierses, amounting to about fourteen or fifteen in number. Sung abundantly for them in the evening, and was made to repeat several of the songs.

20th. Went to the State Paper Office, and sat for some time turning over the calen-

dar of Elizabeth's reign, to see what sort of task I had before me. Dined at Lansdowne House. Company, Lord Minto, Lord Ebrington, Lord Seymour, and one or two more. From thence to Vauxhall with Lord L.; as I told Bessy in my letter, "We went to Vauxhall like a couple of young rakes, as we are, and found it very bright and pretty; though I so far forgot my character as a rake as to wish for *you* there."

22nd. Breakfasted at Rogers's, with a very amusing party: Milnes, Kenny, and somebody else. Wrote a letter to Bessy and sent it as a parcel (this being Sunday), in order that she may have a little treat to-morrow.

23rd. Off to the station at nine, where I was met by Hume.

25th. Had a good passage with my favourite Commander Townley, and got in early in the evening. A great crowd of spectators, as usual, on the jetty, and my name having got about, a good many starers attended my progress. Found my dear little Nell in readiness for me, and was installed in the same comfortable *gîte* as before.

28th. Occupied myself for some time at the College library, but with little success. The key of the MS. room was missing, and when at last found, would not open the door. The MSS., therefore, I suspect, have a very quiet time of it. Went to look for Johnny Napier, but could not make him out. Indulged myself with a solitary peep at two or three spots hallowed by old recollections; poor old Aungier Street House, and the lodgings of my dear Bessy's mother in Suffolk Street. Dined with Norman Macdonald at his beautiful lodge (the Under Secretary's) in the Phoenix Park; the first time I have seen it, though often at the other lodges. This the most agreeable of all, I think.

29th. Went to the Catholic church in Marlborough Street, and heard, as usual, some charming music; Peter Leigh (Ellen's friend) being my companion. We then set out for Kingstown together, and on our way, went into a new chapel (in Merrion Street, I think), to which the old establishment I used to frequent in my young days (Townsend Street Chapel) has been removed. Was introduced to the chief clergyman, who bids fair, as Leigh told me, to be archbishop, on Murray's death; and he told me that this establishment still

retains the name of "The Irish Gentleman's Chapel," which was given to the other in consequence of my book "The Travels of an Irish Gentleman," &c. This I was glad to hear. Went afterwards to the jetty, the great promenade of a Sunday, and was almost stared off my legs; my companions being Leigh and Finlay. Shall not easily forget the hearty hug I got from an honest fellow, who, on my dropping my umbrella, picked it up, and giving it to me, threw his arms round my neck, ejaculating, "My sweet fellow!" Find he is the proprietor of a great glass-shop in Dublin; and Finlay said that nothing would make him more happy than my leaving my card at his house; so resolved to do it. Went from the jetty to Lord Fortescue's, where I dined. After I had dressed, sat looking out of the window at the beautiful bay and the solitary light on Howth, and quite forgot how the time went, till the servant came to tell me that the company were not only all arrived, but were then going in to dinner. Found to my shame that it was so.

31st. Joined Nell and some of her friends at the Portobello Gardens, to hear some very agreeable band music. Had been for several hours before looking over, and transcribing from the MS. Annals of The Four Masters, at Hodges and Smith's. Forgot to mention that one of these days, finding that the Provost had returned to town, I called upon him. We were class-fellows, I think he said, in college, which I had not before been aware of. Was very civil about the MS. room, but insisted to the poor librarian that the difficulty about opening it was all owing to his not knowing how to apply the key, and that he (the Provost) would show him the difference. Accordingly, we all three proceeded together to the library; but, lo, the key was just as refractory in the hand of the Provost, as in that of the inferior officer; and after various grave trials, it was found that the locksmith must be the *dernière ressource* after all, so that my access to the MSS. was put off to another time.

Dined alone with Nell, and went to Lady Clarke's (whom I had called upon in the course of the day) that evening. No one there worth remembering, with the exception of the fair Josephine herself, than whom there are few more accomplished persons. Sang for

each other, and I flatter myself to each other's contentment. This morning, as I was coming out of the College, one of the porters ran after me, and begged I would inform him whether I had not graduated in that university. I told him I had, on which he thanked me with a face full of smiles, and said there had been a wager on the subject.

August 7th. This my wind-up day, having settled to be off to-morrow. Dined with the Cramptons; only themselves; and all went to the Opera together. Strong symptoms of the rising spirit of Toryism in the house. Conservative names given out with cheers, and volleys of the Kent-fire, which I now heard for the first time. Was glad to find, however, that *my* name formed a sort of neutral ground, and that a "Cheer for Tom Moore," which they gave two or three times, was well received.

9th. Arrived between four and five in Liverpool. Breakfasted, and started by the train for Cheltenham. Two nice women with their brother my companions all the way. One of them a great singer, I found, of my songs. Dined with honest Corry at Cheltenham.

10th. Took a most delicious drive with Corry and Curran, who is staying here, to see the beautiful valley of Evesham. The day most perfect for it. Dined, Curran and I, at Corry's.

11th. Off for Cirencester by the coach. Corry with me, on his way to town. Found all right at home, thank God!

October 12th. To Bowood. The party, Sir Stratford and Lady Canning, the Milmans, Twopenny, and a pretty girl, the daughter of Dr. Birkbeck. Stratford Canning and myself got on very sociably together, and he tried a good deal to persuade me to take a trip with him to Constantinople. If I were a little younger and had less cares on my head, there are few things I should like better.

November 1st to 4th. Began to work at the fourth volume of my Irish history; and read and noted all there is about the reign of Elizabeth in the books I possess; having brought away with me from Bowood, the Sidney papers, Holinshed, &c., with the same view. Found, however, that I could not get on with any satisfaction without seeing as much at least as has been calendared of the papers of Elizabeth at the State Paper Office, and resolved, therefore, to run up to town.

12th. A note from Sydney Smith asking me to breakfast with him to-morrow:—"DEAR MOORE,—I have a breakfast of philosophers to-morrow at ten *punctually*. Muffins and metaphysics; crumpets and contradiction. Will you come?" Wrote him an excuse, telling him of my engagement at the State Paper Office, and saying that, though his breakfast would be very agreeable, it would "take a large slice of a reign out of me."

16th. To the Paper Office. Found, this day or the last, a most curious letter of the Earl of Essex to Elizabeth, telling her, with the utmost coolness, of a proposal he had made to a fellow to murder Phelim O'Neill for a reward of 100 marks of land a year. Showed this to my fellow workman, Tytler, who, indeed, helped me to make out part of the writing, Essex's hand being one of the most difficult to read. Tytler, who has been well broken in to royal murders by his *Scottish History* (Cardinal Beaton's, for instance, and he is now ferreting out another), was not quite so much shocked by this discovery as I was. Dined at Milman's; company, Hallam, Lockhart, Westmacott, and one or two more. Very agreeable.

17th. State Paper Office for nearly four hours. Am getting into scrapes about dinners. Company at Murray's, Lord Mahon, Sir Francis Head and his daughter, Lockhart, &c. In the evening Miss Head sung, and very prettily; I was also, of course, called into play, and sung a good deal. Much surprised to find Sir Francis Head such a mild and gentle person, and with so little of the Bubbles of the Brunnen in either his look or manner. Murray sends by me to Bessy a copy of the beautiful edition of Childe Harold he has just published. A letter from Bess full of sweet and good feeling about our poor Tom, who has been very ill in that wretched place, Lower Scinde; but gives great comfort to her, and of course to me, by the better feelings towards home and home associations which his whole letter breathes. He will, I trust in God, be yet a pride and blessing to us.

18th. Dined at Tom Longman's, in the Regent's Park. Company, Dundas, and a few more. Mrs Longman looking very pretty, and sung very prettily also.

19th. After returning from the State Paper Office yesterday, I was seized with a giddiness,

during which the room seemed to turn round with me. The cause of this, I have no doubt, is my having kept my head down over those papers for so many successive days, and so many hours each day. This morning, however, I held the paper in my hand and sat upright. Dined at Mr. Grenville's. Company, Lord and Lady Mahon, Rogers, and Mr. and Lady — somebody, whom I now forget. All very agreeable.

21st. Desperate day of wet. Got off in the half-past ten train. When we were about half way on our road, a gentleman joined us, with somewhat of the foreigner in his mode of speaking; and on my asking him whether he was going any further than Chippenham, he answered, "I am going to the Duke of Beaufort's," upon which I said (hardly knowing why I said it, or what put it in my head), "Pray what's become of the Duke's friend, Matucievitz?" "I am Matucievitz," he answered courteously, and then all flashed at once upon my mind; my meeting him once, and *but* once, many years ago, at dinner at the Duke of Beaufort's in London, and never having known any more of him since, than seeing his name now and then in the newspapers. He seemed much pleased at our *rencontre*, and we had a good deal of agreeable conversation together during the remainder of our journey. Such is life, at least *my* life; for I hardly move a step without something odd or agreeable turning up in my path. Got home, notwithstanding, with a very bad cold, which was neither agreeable nor odd.

December 15th and 16th. About the middle of the month the plot again began to thicken at Bowood, and I was again accordingly brought into play; but not having time to particularise, I can give only a summary retrospect of some of the persons and events. Rogers stayed more than a week, still fresh in all his best faculties, and improved wonderfully in the only point where he was ever at all deficient—temper. He now gives the natural sweetness of his disposition fair play. He walked over to see Bessy, one or two days, through all the wretched mud of the Bowood Lane and our own, making (to us and back again) at least six miles. Among the other successive guests were Dr. and Mrs. Fowler. A good story, by the by, told by Fowler, of a man selling a horse. The would-be pur-

chaser, inquiring as to his leaping powers, asks, "Would he take timber?" "He'd jump over your head," answers the other, "I don't know what you call *that*." Macaulay, another of the guests, and I, stayed for some time. He is a most wonderful man, and I rejoice to learn that the world may expect from him a History of England, taken up, I believe, where *Hume* leaves off. Rogers directed my attention to the passage in his last *Edinburgh* article, where he describes *Warren Hastings'* trial, and the remarkable assemblage of persons and circumstances which it brought together. Agreed perfectly with R. as to the over-gorgeousness of this part of the article. But the whole produces great effect, and is everywhere the subject of conversation. Mrs. Butler (*Fanny Kemble*) was another of the visitors, bringing with her her American husband and two little children, and their stay was I think for near a fortnight. On one of the evenings she read out to us "*Much Ado about Nothing*," with much skill and effect. She, and I too, sung on two successive evenings my duet of "*Oh come to me when daylight sets*." We had also Lord John. He accompanied Rogers one day to *Sloperton*, to see *Bessy*, and is in high spirits for the approaching conflict. Among the latest visitors of this month, was *Charles Greville*, who had never before been at *Bowood*, and was enchanted with the beauty of the house.

1842.

JANUARY, 1842. About the first days of January went over to meet the *Palmerstons*, Lord and Lady *Cottenham*, Lord *Duncannon* and some of his nice family, never forgetting that charming person, Lady *Kerry*, who has now become a constant inhabitant of *Bowood*, and it could not have one more ornamental to it. I sung a good deal, as usual, and even the matter-of-fact-looking *Ex-Lord Chancellor* placed himself close to the pianoforte, and though it didn't quite amount to the "*iron tears down Pluto's cheeks*," seemed very much pleased. I think it was he who mentioned that the nickname they've now got in *Dublin* for *Peel*, is "*the Veiled Prophet*," alluding to those promised revelations respecting his future policy, for which the world is waiting.

[From this time the Diary of Moore con-

tains a less faithful transcript of the conversations in which he bore a part; exhibits more frequent signs of a decay of memory, and is painfully marked with the difficulties and the distress which were brought upon him by the thoughtlessness of one son and the premature decay of the other.

The eldest son, *Thomas Lansdowne Parr*, whose birth had been the cause of so much exultation, was destined to be a cause of sorrow to his parents. *Malignity* has said that Moore neglected the education of his children. No charge could be more false. The education of the *Charter House*, which by the kindness of Lord *Grey* and Sir *Robert Peel*, he was enabled to afford to his two sons, is one of the best to be obtained anywhere, and the then head master, the present Dean of *Peterborough*, was well qualified to maintain the high reputation of the school. In the choice of a school, therefore, Moore performed the part of a kind and judicious father.

His conduct in the choice of a profession for his sons, though equally kind, was not equally judicious. Much endurance, a strong physical constitution, and the power as well as the disposition to bear adverse fortune, are requisite for the military service, either of this country or *India*. Moore's eldest son had little restraint over himself; he was not physically strong; and, like many a son of a man of genius, he was better prepared to enjoy the advantages which his father's reputation brought with it, than to imitate the study and the early parsimony by which his father's genius had been fostered and strengthened in its way to maturity.

In the indulgence of careless habits young *Thomas Moore* got into debt; in a thoughtless moment he resolved to sell his commission. In the *Diary* are to be found traits of kindness on the part of Lord *Raglan* and Sir *John Macdonald*, which were, however, unavailing. It is much to be lamented that Moore's feelings of independence did not allow him to apply to such friends as Lord *Lansdowne* or Mr. *Rogers*, for the aid of a sum of 400*l.*, which would have preserved his son's commission in the *English* army. He asked for a commission in the *Foreign Legion of Algiers*, where his poor boy, beloved in spite of his faults by his foreign companions in arms, fell a victim to the climate and to constant exposure which

his impaired constitution was not fitted to endure.—J. R.]

8th. Most sad news to me after all my gaiety. Our darling Russel has been dangerously ill; and though better when Lord Auckland (from whom the account comes) wrote his letter, cannot, the physicians say, remain in India with safety; and was, therefore, in two or three weeks to sail for England. This time twelve months, almost to the very day, the delay of a letter from him prevented my sweet Bess from partaking in the gaieties at Lacock, and now a far worse fear about him jars in with our festivities. Lord Auckland had met the poor boy, as he tells us, out driving, but looking much more fit for the sick bed; and with a kindness, never to be forgotten by me if I were to live years on years, had him brought to the Government House and there watched over and attended to. God bless him for it.

10th. A visit from Lady Lansdowne, to whom Lord Auckland had also written an account of our poor Russy's illness. Nothing could be more feeling and affectionate than her manner. Kissed Bessy like a sister, on leaving us, and said to me, when I was putting her into her carriage, "She is a most marvellous person," alluding of course to the deep but calm feeling with which my poor Bessy is making up her mind to the worst.

11th and 12th. We now find, in addition to our apprehensions about Russel, that Tom, too, if not actually embarked, is coming home upon sick leave. His accounts of himself from Lower Scinde were such as a good deal to prepare us for this; but to say nothing of the anxiety and grief caused by it, how on earth am I to meet the additional expenses which the return of both boys will now entail, while still I am in debt too for most of the money which their first outfit, passage, &c. required? I am still willing, and thank God, able to work; but the power comes slower, and the effort is therefore more wearing. If I could write with the facility and variety which some people give me credit for, I should indeed be like Mrs. Malaprop's Cerberus, "three gentlemen at once." It was but a few months since that I received two letters pretty nearly at the same time, one of them from Mr. Blewit, a composer of comic songs and country

dances (who by the by, has turned most of the melodies, both gay and serious, into quadrilles), proposing an alliance between himself and me for the production of all sorts of musical comicalities; while the other letter was from Mr. Bagshaw, on the part of the "Dublin Review," begging that I would undertake an article for that work, on the recent edition of Dodd's Ecclesiastical History. He says among other things, "A notice on this work, by Dr. Lingard, appeared in the 'Dublin Review' at the time of the appearance of the first volume, and the great importance of the work appears to the proprietors to justify troubling you with the present application; the more especially as the delicacy of the task (regard being had to many of the topics discussed, and their bearing upon the actual position and differences of opinion existing among members of the Catholic body) requires that none but a master-hand should be relied on." The juxta-position here, of such men and such subjects—Blewit and Lingard!—jigs and theology!—is *impayable*.

13th and 14th. A most joyful relief to us, one of these days, the 14th I believe, in a letter from Miss Eden, telling of the rapid and (as it would appear) almost complete recovery of our dear Russell from his threatening attack of illness. He had become so well, she tells us, as to be able to join a large dinner-party they had the day before. It is still thought expedient, however, that he should avail himself of his sick leave, as encountering another hot summer might be dangerous. A second most welcome item of her intelligence is that Russell's passage is to be paid by the Company, so that burden is also off my mind.

The following squib of mine having been left out of my general edition (though published soon enough to have appeared in it) may as well be preserved here:—

"To the Editor of the 'Morning Chronicle.'

SIR,—You have already, I doubt not, been made acquainted with the very old and curious prophecy, called the Schisms of the Isms, which has been for some time past circulating through various parts of the kingdom. As I have been lucky enough, however, to have lighted upon a more correct copy of this singular production than is generally to be met

with, I venture to submit it to your editorial consideration, and have the honour to be,

‘Your obedient servant,
“E. G.”

THE SCHISM OF THE ISMS.

“There shall come, in the latter days, a schism
Unnam’d in Bible or Catechism,
‘Mong all such things as end in ‘ism,’
Whether Puseyism, or Newmanism,
Or, simply and solely, mountebankism.

“Then, woe is me! not Gentilism,
Nor Judaism, nor scepticism,
E’er work’d such ill as that day of schism.
For all shall then be egotism,
And separatism and cabalism;
And priests shall mix mock Romanism
With very indifferent Protestantism;
And drag the mess with th’ unholy chrism
Of Pusey’s once dear rationalism.

“Then bishops shall ape the nepotism
That draw on popes such stigmatisms;
And bring up their sons to sinecurism,
While rolling themselves in epicurism,
Then Ph—p—ts, ready for any ‘ism,’
But liberalism and Christianity,
Shall show that of all sectarianism,
His natural sect is contrary-ism.
And S—l, too, upon Romanism
Will sport his raree-showmanism;
And prove, by dint of sheer humbuggism,
That Tipperary swarms with Thuggism!

“When these things happen in synchronism,
Then woe and alas for the Oxford schism!
It hath reach’d its hour of fatalism,
It hath felt its last faint paroxysm.
And Puseyism and Newmanism,
And even long-winded Sewellism,
Shall all, for the want of some better ‘ism,’
Be swamp’d in one great cataclysm *!”

Among my letters lately was one from a zealous teetotaller, who is about to publish a book on the subject; and, after saying that he does not recollect having ever seen any published opinions of mine on the subject, begs that I will favour him with a few sentences in favour of the cause. Wrote back to him to say that I thought no man had a right to preach what he does not practise, and that my own habits at table, though certainly *not* intemperate, extended to a freer use of wine than would authorise me with a grave face to recommend abstinence to others. * * * *

February 25th. The difficulty as to how I can raise the 100*l.* to meet Russell’s draft, still haunts me most worryingly; there being, in addition to this, the yet unpaid bills for the outfits both of him and Tom. It rounds much to the honour of my kind old

friend Hume, that when I wrote to him the other day telling of Russell’s draft, he instantly answered, and inquired of me when the bill would become due, evidently meaning to help me through it. This, after all (in a world where money is the universal touchstone), deserves eminently to be noted down as true friendship. Lord Bacon cites some ancient philosopher, who said that “Gold was tried with the touchstone, and men with Gold;” and the great chancellor, who was himself, perhaps (while at Gray’s Inn), sometimes run hard for this “trier of spirits,” seems to have felt deeply its truth.

March 12th. Had written to Hume to meet me at Brookes’s this morning, on the subject of Russell’s bill (100*l.*), which was to fall due on the fifteenth, and which I trusted he would enable me by some accommodations to meet. On explaining to him that I merely wanted his acceptance of a draft upon him to that amount, at a month’s date, he most readily and kindly assented. Went with him to his banker’s, made the bill for 120*l.* to meet some other little exigencies, and wrote to *my* bankers (at Devizes) to apprise them that they should have provision for the bill by Tuesday morning’s post. Was delighted to have to tell my dear Bessy that all had been arranged so comfortably. Couldn’t help ruminating a little on the essential difference there is between useful and merely ornamental friends. But one musn’t grumble; both are good in their different ways.

13th. Breakfasted with Rogers. Company, Everett (the American Minister), Lord Mahon, Milnes, Luttrell, &c., &c. Talking of Lady Holland’s crowded dinners, and her bidding people constantly “to make room,” Luttrell said, “It must certainly be *made*, for it does not *exist*.” Dined at Lady Holland’s. Found in the hall, as I was going in, a victim of *one* of her ways of making room, in the person of Gore, who was putting on his great coat to take his departure, having been sent away by my Lady for want of room. Company, Lord Melbourne, Lords Erroll and Kinnaird (if I recollect right), Lord Dalmeny, and a good many more. So great was the “pressure from without,” that Allen, after he had performed his carving part, retired to a small side table to dine. All was very agreeable, however, and I have seldom seen Lord Melbourne in

* A learned name for the Deluge.

such good spirits. Rogers's theory is that the close packing of Lady Holland's dinners is one of the secrets of their conversableness and agreeableness, and perhaps he is right.

16th. Dined with Mr. Grenville. Company, only Lady Francis Egerton, the Archbishop of York and his niece, and Lord Harrowby. Choice Church and State companions for *me*! but all very kind and agreeable, and the male portion veterans of the first order, Mr. Grenville himself being eighty-six, the Archbishop, I suppose, little short of that age, and Lord Harrowby, as he told us, eighty. No great deficiency visible in any of them; and Lord Harrowby let off some of his sarcastic jokes as lively as ever. Sat a good while talking after dinner, and then home. The Archbishop, in the course of the day, reminded me of the ancient music, and the little use I had made of my privilege of *entrée* to "the preserve," and Lady Francis asked me to her music to-morrow evening. Had a note from Sydney Smith this morning. I had met him soon, after my arrival in town, at Lady Holland's, and he then told me that his list of dinners was full, both at home and abroad, for ten days to come. Alluding to this in the excuse I sent him, I added, that most willingly would I have *fasted* for the chance of dining with him. The following was his reply:—

"MY DEAR MOORE,—I must explain why my invitation to you came so late. Before I knew you were in town, my party was completed; but Lord Carlisle is ill, and I hastened to supply his place from the aristocracy of nature. Ever," &c.

18th. Went for a few hours to the State Paper Office, to see how far they had got on with the calendaring since I was last there. Was sorry to find they had made but little progress. Took some notes of what they had done. Dined at Mrs. Cunliffe's. Company large enough, but (strange to say) quite a blank in my memory; whether through *their* fault or *mine*, I know not. I have heard of a "Tabula rasa," but a whole dinner *table* thus suddenly erased from one's memory is a new phenomenon. In one of Bessy's last letters, she mentioned that a letter had arrived at Sloperon from Tom, dated Lower Scinde, and stated a few of the particulars contained in it. Something struck me that there was much

held back by her through the fear of annoying me.

19th. Went to the Horse Guards. Macdonald put into my hand a letter or paper which revealed all that my poor Bessy had withheld from me. Tom has sold his commission, and is on his way home! thus casting away all that I had managed to do for him with so much anxiety and self-denial. Forgot to mention that I breakfasted this morning with Milnes, to meet the American Minister, Hallam, Macaulay, &c., &c. Macaulay opened for us quite a new character of his marvellous memory, which astonished as much as it amused me; and that was his acquaintance with the old Irish slang ballads, such as "The night before Larry was stretched," &c., &c., many of which he repeated as glibly off as *I* could in my boyhood. He certainly obeys most wonderfully Eloisa's injunction, "Do all things but *forget*."

20th. Breakfasted with Rogers. Made visits. Called (this day I believe it was) on the Halls, the clever writers on Ireland, who live at Old Brompton; but did not find them at home, so had my long walk for nothing. Dined at Fonblanque's; a very large party in a small room. Got luckily seated between Shiel and our host, so that I had the flower of the whole assemblage.

22nd. Off for home by the half-past ten train, and in the next carriage to me was Jeffrey, Mrs. Jeffrey, Empson, Mrs. Empson and child. Jeffrey, I was sorry to find, not in good health, and going to Clifton for change of air. Asked him to pay us a visit at Sloperon, and said that if possible I would set him an example by coming to see him at Clifton. How comfortable even these glimpses are of old and dear friends. As I say myself, in one of my songs,

"Ah, well may we hope, when this short life is gone,
To meet in some world of more permanent bliss;
For a smile or a grasp of the hand, hastening on,
Is all we enjoy of each other in this."

This "hastening on" would seem to have been written with a prospective view to my meeting Jeffrey thus in full speed, on a railroad. Found my sweet Bessy pretty well, but, like myself, full of alarm and anxiety about our two boys: the one good and prosperous, but in ill health; the other,—but,

alas! there's no use in dwelling upon what is so painful.

25th and 26th. "Moore's Irish Melodies translated into Irish. By Dr. McHale, R. C. Archbishop of Tuam.—'In every language syllabled by fame' have the Irish Melodies, that undying transcript of a nation's wrongs and honours, been hitherto made known, except, until now, in the native language of their own country. Musical, perhaps, beyond most others, at least as far as the simple expression of feeling may be conveyed through the medium of sound, the Irish nation have as yet had in their mother tongue only bad expositors of their airs, or rapid declamatory modes of reproduction; and while the singers of all the rest of the world have known the words of Moore, the 'mere Irish' were obliged to be contented with the knowledge that their wrongs and their woes found a place in the crowded saloons where fashion and beauty meet, while in their own old and most expressive language alone they found no currency. This reproach, or want, is now likely to be removed by the aid of Dr. McHale, who, in reducing the Irish Melodies from the 'foreign' tongue, in which their own great poet had made them so familiar, to the native, has, as he expresses it in the notice 'to the reader,' which precedes these translations, 'introduced these Melodies to his humbler countrymen, robed in a manner worthy of their high origin,' and done 'a service to the taste and morality of the people.' The translator, whose name and position will make these versions as popular at the hearths of the peasantry as the originals are all the world over, thus alludes to the author:—'The genius of Moore must ever command admiration; its devotion to the vindication of the ardent faith of Ireland, and the character of its injured people, must inspire every Irishman with still more estimable feelings. Seated amidst the tuneful followers of Apollo, he essayed the instruments of every Muse, and became master of them all; sighing at length for some higher and holier source of poetical feeling, he turns to the East, and listens with rapture to its poetical melodies; subdued by the strain, he lets fall the lyre, seizes the harp of Sion and Erin, at once the emblem of piety and of patriotism, and gives its boldest and most solemn chords to his own impassioned inspirations of country and of pa-

triotism.' This is high praise, but not beyond Moore's merits. The translations, we are told by those acquainted with the ancient Irish language, are excellent, close, and worthy of the author."

April 6th. We had been for some time daily expecting our dear Russell, and this morning a letter arrived from him, dated Hastings, and telling us we might expect him in the course of the day. Our ears and eyes were of course on the watch for every carriage that approached, and at last we heard his own voice telling the flyman *not* to drive into the gate. Our feeling at this remembrance of his mother's neat garden, and his thoughtful wish not to spoil the gravel, was hardly expressed to us when we saw the poor fellow himself, getting slowly out of the carriage, and looking as if the next moment would be his very last. It seemed, indeed, all but death. Both his mother and myself threw our arms round him, and all three remained motionless for some time; the poor boy the only calm one of the three, and my feelings and fears being far more, I confess, about the mother than about himself. It was very frightful, nor shall I ever forget those few minutes at that gate.

7th to 9th. Have had Brabant two or three times to see Russell, and he evidently thinks him in great danger. No ulceration yet in the lungs, but tubercles, he thinks, have formed.

10th and 11th. My poor Bessy day and night watching over her patient, to whom she has given up her own room, and at every cough she hears from him at night is by his bedside. It is for *her* I most fear.

12th to 14th. Great appearances of amendment, and Brabant evidently begins to think him better.

15th to 18th. I shall now, as some amusement to my mind, notice a few of the various communications I have been receiving lately, and, first and foremost, the following scrap of one of my dear Bessy's letters while I was in town (the very letter which contained, or rather suppressed, the bad news about Tom) deserves well to be preserved. "The violets are getting ready to welcome you back, and I have had a number of little nothings done to keep us tidy; so that without expense we shall go on again looking tolerably decent. The wall is up and the honeysuckle arranged. Polly *

* Mary Hughes, of Buckhill.

and I worked hard at your face* to wash it clean, and we succeeded in a degree. Remember to bring down Mr. Rogers."†

Received last month the following letter from Mrs. Hall, the writer of the inimitable Stories, &c., about Ireland.

"DEAR SIR,—I venture to present you with a copy of my 'Sketches of Irish Character;' for though, being my first work, it is crude and full of faults, yet, relating as it does to my native Bannow, and being inscribed to your old friend Thomas Boyse, I hope it may find favour in your eyes. I have long desired to present you with 'my works.' I owe you, in common with all those who can feel, so much gratitude, that even to be able to say 'I am grateful,' is a privilege; but had it not been for your kind note to my husband, I should not have presumed to address you even now. I cannot avoid mentioning a little circumstance which afforded us both much pleasure. We were reading your 'History of Ireland,' and found that you had immortalized a poem on Jerpoint Abbey, by mentioning it with a few precious words of praise. That poem was written by my husband, when quite a youth, and long before he thought of exchanging his pen for a barrister's gown. I am sure you would not regret your generous words, if you had witnessed *my pride* for him. I have the honour to be,

"Your most obliged and grateful,

"A. MARIA HALL."

May 1st to 9th. Again disturbed from home and work, and obliged to run up to town on a fool's errand, namely, the acting as one of the stewards at the approaching dinner of the Literary Fund; his Royal Highness Prince Albert having consented to take the chair on the occasion. This is, *indeed*, meeting the spirit of the times more than half way; the King Consort taking the chair at a Freemason Tavern dinner!

10th. Started for town, leaving our dear boy somewhat better. Found, with my usual good luck, a note from Murray, asking me to meet at dinner *to-day* the man of all others I wanted to shake hands with once more—Washing-

ton Irving. Called at Murray's to say "yes, yes," with all my heart.

11th. Went to the Literary Fund Chambers to see what were the arrangements and where I was to be seated; having in a note to Blewitt, the secretary, begged of him to place me near some of my own personal friends. Found that I was to be seated between Hallam and Washington Irving. All right. By the bye, Irving had yesterday come to Murray's with the determination, as I found, not to go to the dinner, and all begged of me to use my influence with him to change this resolution. But he told me his mind was made up on the point, that the drinking his health, and the speech he would have to make in return, were more than he durst encounter; that he had broken down at the Dickens' Dinner (of which he was chairman) in America, and obliged to stop short in the middle of his oration, which made him resolve not to encounter another such accident. In vain did I represent to him that a few words would be quite sufficient in returning thanks. "That *Dickens'* Dinner," which he always pronounced with strong emphasis, hammering away all the time with his right arm, *more suo*, "that *Dickens'* Dinner" still haunted his imagination, and I almost gave up all hope of persuading him. At last I said to him, "Well, now, listen to me a moment. If you really wish to distinguish yourself, it is by saying the fewest possible words that you will effect it. The great fault with all the speakers, *myself* among the number, will be our saying too much. But if you content yourself with merely saying that you feel most deeply the cordial reception you have met with, and have great pleasure in drinking their healths in return, the very simplicity of the address will be more effective from such a man, than all the stammered out rigmaroles that the rest of the speechifiers will vent." This suggestion seemed to touch him; and so there I left him, feeling pretty sure that I had carried my point. It is very odd that while some of the shallowest fellows go on so glib and ready with the tongue, men whose minds are abounding with matter should find such difficulty in bringing it out. I found that Lockhart also had declined attending this dinner under a similar apprehension, and only consented, on condition that his health should not be given. * * *

* A cast from Kirk's bust of me which stands in our drawing room.

† A print of himself from Lawrence's picture, which he had promised to give to Bessy.

The best thing of the evening, (as far as I was concerned), occurred after the whole grand show was over. Irving and I came away together, and we had hardly got into the street, when a most pelting shower came on, and cabs and umbrellas were in requisition in all directions. As we were provided with neither, our plight was becoming serious, when a common cad ran up to me, and said, "Shall I get you a cab, Mr. Moore? Sure, ain't I the man that patronizes your Melodies?" He then ran off in search of a vehicle, while Irving and I stood close up, like a pair of male caryatides, under the very narrow projection of a hall-door ledge, and thought at last that we were quite forgotten by my patron. But he came faithfully back, and, while putting me into the cab (without minding at all the trifle I gave him for his trouble) he said confidentially in my ear, "Now, mind, whenever you want a cab, Mithur Moore, just call for Tim Flaherty, and I'm your man." Now, this I call *fame*, and of somewhat a more agreeable kind than that of Dante, when the women in the street found him out by the marks of hell-fire on his beard. (See Ginguenè.)

16th. Forgot to mention that I went to rehearsal at the Ancient Music this morning, the Archbishop of York having good-naturedly called me to account the other day for never using my privilege of *entrée* to the Preserve. Nothing, certainly, could be more gratifying than my reception now among them. Lord Cawdor, who had been sitting beside the Archbishop when I entered, said laughingly, "Let us place him next the Archbishop," and laying his hands on my shoulders, made me take his seat. Two old stock articles of mine, "Fallen is thy throne," and "Sound the loud timbrel," happened to be among the selections for the day, and everybody was very flattering about them. The manner, however, in which "Fallen is thy throne" was given, worried me not a little, from its dull sameness, and I felt very much relieved when I found they stopped after the second verse. To hear them *snore* out "Go, saith the Lord, ye Conquerors" (into which I myself in singing it throw all the force and passion I can muster up) would have been rather trying. Nothing, however, could have been more agreeable than the whole *séance*; the

nice people around me, Lady Lyttleton, Mrs. Gladstone, my old friend Lady Cawdor, and the Archbishop's good-humoured daughter, the beauty of some of the music and the flattering reception given to my old strains, all was very agreeable.

21st. Breakfasted at Hallam's. A grand display of literati; and the poets particularly in great force, there being of the party Campbell, Wordsworth, Rogers, and myself. What a scene for a Blue to peep in upon! and yet the whole thing ordinary enough.

25th. Went one of these mornings to the British Museum to look over works about Ireland. Panizzi and the librarian most alert and kind in their attentions.

26th. Started for home. On arriving found our dear Russell somewhat better than I had expected.

June 4th to 6th. This whole month has been passed quietly at home, if "quietly" I can call it, with such pressing cares and anxieties on my mind. The dying state (for I fear it is no better) of our poor boy at home, and the still worse state (for death is after all not the worst evil) of that unlucky Tom, now thrown upon the world without profession or means of subsistence, make up altogether a prospect which, but for the courage, warm-heartedness, and never-failing spirits of my admirable Bessy, I never should be able to sustain.

7th to 10th. The remainder of this month passed at home and hard at work: somewhat enlivened, however, by the following announcement of an agreeable honour lately conferred upon me by the King of Prussia.

"Berlin, June 1st, 1842.—His Majesty has been pleased to found a Special Class of the Order 'pour le mérite,' to be conferred on persons who have distinguished themselves in the sciences and arts. The number of the members of the German nation is fixed at thirty. To enhance the splendour of the order it will also be conferred on eminent foreigners, the number of whom is not fixed, but is never to exceed that of the German members. Among the foreign members in the Class of Science (including, it seems, Belles Lettres) are Robert Farady, Sir John Herschel, members of the Royal Society of London, and Mr. Thomas Moore.—'Prussian State Gazette.'"

July 1st to 4th. Came to the resolution at last of accepting Boyse's friendly offer, as relieving me, at least, from one great source of anxiety, the want of means for small daily demands. Wrote to him to say I would accept his kind offer of a loan of 200*l.*, and, almost by return of post, received from him a most friendly letter enclosing notes to that amount.

5th to 7th. Working at my History, which must now be my whole and sole task. * * *

17th. Breakfasted with Rogers. Went afterwards to Warwick Street Chapel, and was lucky enough to come in for Mozart's Requiem. Dined at Lord Lansdowne's, having been my own inviter. I had heard, on arriving in town, that he was to have a "Dickens' dinner" (as Washington Irving would call it) on this day, and wrote to propose myself as a guest. Among the other diners besides Dickens, were Rogers, Luttrell, Sir Edmund Head, and one or two more. Had a long *séance* to-day with Macdonald, at his own house, on the subject of Tom. Something that fell from Bryan yesterday gave me a faint glimpse of hope that *he* was a little inclined to interpose his aid on my present emergency. "Wasn't it possible," he asked, "that Tom might enter the army again as an ensign, that rank being so much more easily purchasable?" I therefore questioned Macdonald on the subject. "Why, my dear fellow," he answered, "an ensigncy would cost 450*l.*, and the payment of 400*l.* would preserve to your son his lieutenancy." He also mentioned, what was most tantalizing under the circumstances, that it was *not*, as I supposed, their intention to continue Tom in his present regiment (where there are near twenty lieutenants before him), but that they had a snug birth ready for him in a regiment which was now in England, and would remain so for some time, and in which there would be but two or three between him and promotion. I forget now the number of this regiment, but he showed it to me in the Army List. This is real and *essential* kindness, if I *could* but have availed myself of it.

19th. It was this day, I believe, not yesterday, that I dined at Burdett's to meet McNab, &c. The loss of my memorandum book has allowed all that was agreeable to escape out of my mind; the disagreeable is sure to remain. Called upon Macdonald, and told him

the hopelessness of my case; so there *ends* the whole matter, and with it, I fear, all my unfortunate boy's prospects. Sate a good while with Macdonald, while he was dressing for some levee, and had an account from him of the small beginnings from which he rose to be what he is; all naturally, shrewdly, and interestingly told.

22nd and 23rd. Having now no other hope for Tom, I again turned my thoughts to the chance of the Austrian service for him; but the recommendatory note from Lord Fitzroy which Neumann required, appeared to me rather a stumbling-block. As, however, he could *but* refuse, I wrote him a letter on the subject, which he answered promptly and kindly, enclosing at the same time the required note for Neumann, and thus crowning the uniform course of his kindness to me. Lost no time in delivering this note to Neumann, who said that he would do all he could towards favouring my object.

23rd. Went to Dr. Johnson's, who did not speak quite so encouragingly about Russell's case as he did to Brabant, who told us that in speaking of young men obliged to come home for this sort of disorder, he said, "It is very, very tedious; but they all recover." Dr. Johnson, however, mentioned a physician upon whom he had more reliance in East Indian cases than himself, and said he would procure and communicate to me his opinion on this subject. When I offered my fee he very courteously declined it.

August 8th to 10th. Hard at work at my History, which must now be my whole and sole task, but when to be finished, God only knows.

16th. Received a letter from Tom containing somewhat more comfortable glimpses of a future for him than have for a long time opened upon me. A French gentleman whom he has got acquainted with through our friend Villamil, and who is a Member of the Chamber of Deputies, has invited him to pass some weeks with him at his country house at Eu, and has also suggested, as a possible resource for him, his entering into the *Légion Etrangère* of the French army employed in Algiers, the king being likely, he thinks, to give him a commission in that service. This is at least worthy of consideration. A very happy use was made by Peel the other day,

in his clever answer to Lord Palmerston, of some lines of mine from the *Melodies*. Alluding to the flight of Lord John and most of the other opposition leaders from town, leaving Palmerston to stand the brunt of the House alone, he compared him to

"The last rose of summer left blooming alone,
All his lovely companions were faded and gone."

19th and 20th. An amusing instance of the spread of literature just now; one of Bessy's old women in the village sent her lately a letter from her son, in which was the following learned piece of criticism. "The following lines are written by Thomas Moore, Esq. I consider them beautiful; very sarcastic upon the gentry. Then follow these lines from Lalla Rookh:—

"A heav'n, too, ye must have, ye lords of dust,
A splendid paradise,—pure souls ye must.
That prophet ill sustains his holy eal,
Who finds not heavens to suit the tastes of all."

This metamorphose of my friend Mokanna into a lampooner of "the gentry" is excellent; a sort of Oriental Tom Brown the Younger.

21st and 22nd. Work and worry, my daily portion. Wrote to Lord Auckland, to welcome him home; to tell him of poor Russell's continued illness, and thank him as warmly as language *could* thank for his kindness to him. In his answer he says, "You are very grateful for a very little. Having a palace and four hundred servants, it was no great effort for me to give a bed to the son of so old a friend."

September 1st to 11th. Received about the 10th or 11th a letter from Tom, which agreeably relieved me from the misgivings I have had about my letter to Madame Adelaide. I shall here transcribe all he says on the subject. "The following particulars, which I trust will give you pleasure, I must state briefly, as time presses. On last Sunday morning I was presented at court. His Majesty received me most graciously, conversing with me in English, which he speaks perfectly, during five or six minutes. The same day I received an invitation to dine at the palace, where I was equally well received. On Tuesday had an audience with Madame Adelaide, and the Princess was most kind. She received me alone, and conversed for a considerable time; but did not open your

letter while I was present. But yesterday evening I received the following note from the lady in waiting:—'Madame Adelaide désirerait parler demain à 11 heures à Monsieur T. Moore. La Comtesse de Montjoie s'empresse de l'en prévenir. Château d'Eu.' Accordingly I waited upon Madame this morning, who was really quite friendly both in her manner and in what she said. She told me that on reading your letter she spoke upon the subject to the King, who immediately expressed himself most anxious to meet your wishes. His Majesty also recommended me strongly to Maréchal Soult, to whom she, too, had spoken upon the subject. Madame then spoke to me very kindly concerning the badness of the climate, and the severity of the duty in Africa; observing that after my health having already suffered in India, I should not think of venturing in Africa, &c., &c. Madame concluded by telling me that she had settled everything with Maréchal Soult, who would receive me immediately; and she added, '*Si vous voulez me suivre, je vais vous présenter moi-même à son aide-de-camp.*' &c. Maréchal Soult, who *can* be a *tiger*, is gentle enough where kings are concerned; and it was no doubt to the intervention of his Majesty and Madame that I owed the politeness of my reception. But here the first obstacle has arisen, in consequence of my not being in possession of the papers which I forwarded to England by your desire. The Maréchal requires also a certificate, &c., &c. From all that the Maréchal said to me, I could see plainly that my request was a very difficult one for him to fulfil; but he expressed himself most ready to do everything in his power as soon as he should receive my papers and find everything satisfactory. * * Therefore it is that I venture to ask you to obtain from Lord Fitzroy the favour of a letter of recommendation to Maréchal Soult, as a letter from him as our Secretary-at-War to Maréchal Soult, upon whom everything depends, would undoubtedly facilitate the affair, &c., &c. Madame Adelaide bid me write to you to-day, and assure you of the continued friendship for you which exists no less on her own part than on that of Louis Philippe; and she added that she intended writing to you herself, and assuring you of his kindly dispositions, for, she added, '*votre*

père et moi, nous avons toujours été de très bons amis."

There's a good deal more of the letter, but I have given only the most interesting parts. What will come of it all, Heaven knows. But I see not much to hope; and, in the meantime, it is but a continuation of that *spoiling* process to which poor Tom (as my son) has been from his childhood subjected. Let the result, however, be what it may, the kindness of these royal people is even more creditable to themselves than to me, and shows what injustice I did to them in supposing the "*tantane animis caelestibus iræ*" to apply also to these earthly godheads. Their anger with me (if indeed they ever felt it) has all evidently passed away. It being the opinion both of Bessy and Ellen that I ought to run up to town and confer with my friends at the Horse Guards on this matter, I started from home on the

12th. My companion a poor sick young clergyman who had been to try the air of Clifton for relief (and 'as happens constantly with me) it chanced that in the course of our conversation, I touched a spring which brought us in *rapport* with each other. In speaking of the Charter House, where it appeared he had been educated, I said that a son of mine had been also brought up there, whom he might have known, named Moore; upon which his poor pale face lighted up with smiles, and without saying a word he took off his hat to me.

14th. Breakfasted at Brookes's, Rogers, my grand dispenser of that meal, having gone for some days to Lord Palmerston's. Wrote a long letter to Madame Adelaide on the subject of Tom, Marshal Soult, Algiers, &c., which was in every respect a most painful operation to me. Took it myself to the French ambassador's, with the hope that he had returned from Paris, and having a sort of notion that I am personally acquainted with him, in which case I would have tried to enlist him in the cause of Tom; but he had not yet returned. Being so near my old (or rather young) lodgings in George-Street, thought I would treat myself to another peep at them; the last time I saw them having been with my poor boy, Russell. But "the gentleman up two pair of stairs" was now unwell, and I got no further than the hall. Met Lady Holland in her car-

riage in St. James's Street, a god-send or (to speak more gallantly) a goddess-send at this time of the year in London. Asked me of course to dinner to-day, which I most gladly accepted. Had already formed a sort of slip-knot with Easthope to dine at his country house, but he had luckily put me off till to-morrow. I had now dined two successive days at my own expense, which in London is a sort of monstrosity. "Base is the slave that pays," says ancient Pistol, and I feel deeply the truth of this aphorism when paying for a dinner for myself in London.

Company at Lady Holland's (besides herself and Allen), Sir S. Hammick and Henry Bulwer. The conversation very agreeable, and my Lady read to us after dinner a letter from Sydney, quite as piquant as any of her dishes. Thought to have remembered some of it, but my knack at reporting, never very good, is now nearly gone. I remember, however, that before dinner, Allen provoked me a little. That people shouldn't *read* my History is no blame to them, God knows; but that *without* that previous process, they should (before the author's face, too,) profess to give an account of it, and criticise it, is rather too bad, and shows that at least some of our Irish *brass* must have adhered to them. Allen gravely assured the company that the First Volume of my History was chiefly employed in supporting those fabulous claims to antiquity which my countrymen had set up; whereas I am the first real Irishman who has ever ventured to protest against our Milesian pedigree, and relieve the real antiquities of the land from the incubus of that dull fable. So much was this the case, and so essentially had this stale nonsense come to be connected in the minds of Irishmen with their great national cause, that I remember Lynch, the author of "Feudal Dignities" (a man well versed in our real ancient lore), writing to express to me his deep regret that I had adopted this view of the question, and adding that "he foresaw in it future concessions to English prejudice" on my part. In the evening Lord Fitzgerald joined our party. Lady Holland very anxious that I should meet him at dinner to-morrow, and tried all her moods, the imperative among the rest, to make me say that I would come; but, without telling her where I was engaged, I declared it to be impossible.

15th. Called for by Easthope at half-past three. Our companion a Mr. Doyle, a young Irishman, lately added to the staff of "The Chronicle." Easthope's place not far from Oatlands. None but his own family at dinner; three daughters and a son. Being asked to sing in the evening, was glad of the opportunity of again trying my voice, not having sung for months, and the last time I ventured having been before our poor dying boy, when, after a note or two, I broke irresistibly into a fit of sobbing, most painful, of course, to us all. Ever since then I had not ventured to touch the pianoforte till this evening, when, glad of the opportunity of another trial, I consented to sing, and was rejoiced to find I could get so well through it, my voice being much the same as ever, and my audience evidently much touched and pleased.

17th. Called again upon Dr. Johnson, and had some talk with him. Told him of our trial once or twice of the bath he had recommended, and of our leaving it off on account of the painful trouble it gave our poor boy, and the opinion of our physician that it would do him but little good. He then suggested some easier mode of applying the bath, and said that he should like to have it continued. Company at Lady Holland's (besides Rogers who took me), Sir James Kemp, Sir Stephen Hammeck, some foreign minister whose name I could not catch, and one or two more. Some talk with Allen, during which I asked him whether he did not sometimes feel wearied by the sort of effort it must be to keep up conversation during these evenings, and he owned that it was frequently a most heavy task, and that if he had followed his own taste and wishes he would long since have given up that mode of life. For myself (as I believe I told him), that Holland house sort of existence, though by far the best specimen of its kind going, would appear to me, for any continuance, the most wearisome of all forms of slavery; and the best result I find of my occasional visits to town is the real relish with which I return to my quiet garden and study, where in the mute society of my own thoughts and books, I am never either offended or wearied.

23rd. Received Lord Fitzroy's answer to my letter refusing, as I had anticipated, to give Tom the introduction to Soult; but full

of most kind and considerate feeling. The following are extracts from his letter:—"I have been considering your poor son's case most seriously, and I really do not feel at liberty to write to Marshal Soult in his behalf. I will confess to you moreover that, however unfortunate his position may be, I do not see the advantage of his entering *La Légion Etrangère*; and I find this to be the opinion of a Gentleman of Authority* in such matters, whom I had an opportunity of consulting yesterday by the merest accident. I do not know what the precise object may be in having with the *Corps d'Armée* in Algiers a *Légion Etrangère*. It can be from no want of men, of whom France possesses an abundance, and whom she can place in the ranks at any moment by means of the conscription. But I conceive it to be from a natural desire to save the national troops from fatiguing and unhealthy services, and to have what must be done performed by those whose lives are less valuable to them. Nor do I know how officers in this corps are paid. It is presumed, however, that the duties to be discharged are such as to render imperative on an English gentleman the possession of comforts which his mere pay alone cannot command; and that, after all the exposure to disease and extraordinary fatigue, your son would not be better off in this respect with the *Légion Etrangère* than he would be in the Austrian army. It is difficult to advise when one has nothing to offer if our advice should be followed, but I cannot help urging you to reconsider this matter in which your poor son's fate is involved, and to see if his admission to the Austrian army is really out of the question."

Nothing can be more kind and considerate than this truly high-bred and soldierly letter, and his words, "your poor son," went to my heart. It is indeed a bleak prospect for the unfortunate boy.

25th to 27th. Some correspondence has passed between me and *Dan* lately, in consequence of a letter I wrote to him respecting a statement made in more than one of his speeches of the hospitable reception given in Dublin to the English Protestants, who fled

* I have little doubt from the wording of this passage, from the capital letters, and the pains taken to state that it was 'by the merest accident' the opportunity of consulting was afforded, that the Gentleman of Authority was no other than the Duke of Wellington.

thither for safety in the reign of Queen Mary. He has frequently alluded to the circumstance in his speeches, and more than once quoted a long account from some book, giving in detail an account of the demonstration made of this liberal feeling by the Catholic corporation of Dublin. Though pretty sure that the short notice we have in Ware, Harris, &c. is our only authority for so remarkable an event, I wrote to O'Connell to beg he would assist me on the subject. His letter (which, being characteristic, I shall give an extract from) tells me of course no more about the matter than I had already known from the authors above mentioned:—

"My dear Moore,—Do not be angry with me for not having sooner answered your letter. The fact is, I wanted to answer it satisfactorily, but have consumed the time in vain. * * * I remember distinctly having read the facts somewhere, though I cannot lay my hand upon the authority: I mean the facts relative to the corporation of Dublin. Of this much there is no doubt, that the Irish Catholics did not persecute any Protestants in the reign of Queen Mary; nay, more: it is quite certain that many Protestants fled from England to escape persecution, and received protection in Ireland from the Irish Catholics," &c., &c.

I have since found, and unluckily lost again, the extract from O'Connell's speech relating to this matter, wherein he enters into details of the public proceedings of the Dublin Catholics on that occasion. I should be right glad that he had any such historical fact to advance; but the real state of the case is, I believe, neither more nor less than what Ware thus states:—"This year several of the Protestants of England fled over into Ireland, by reason Queen Mary began to persecute, &c. viz., John Harvey, Able Ellis, John Edmonds, and Henry Hough, all Cheshire men, who, bringing over their goods and chattels, lived in Dublin, and became citizens of this city; it *not being known wherefore they came thither until after Queen Mary's death.*"

28th and 29th. On looking again at O'Connell's letter, I see that he *does* mention in it one of those poetical facts which he had stated in the speech referred to. "I cannot bring," he says, "to my recollection where I found the fact of the hiring of seventy-two houses in Dublin for the Bristol Protestant refugees, in

Mary's reign; but find it I certainly did, and will not cease until I find it again."

October 1st to 3rd. The same melancholy course of life which has been our fate (or rather the fate of my poor Bessy and her suffering invalid) for the last six or seven months; gleams of hope, now and then, but one after another vanishing, and at last Kenrick has told us we must prepare for the worst. One great consolation is, that the poor fellow suffers but little pain; God send it may be so to the last. A night or two since he was singing over some of his favourite songs, and, indeed, sung himself to sleep.

24th. Wrote a day or two since to Tom, asking him to come here as soon as he could to see poor Russell. It is strange, but some lines of my own, long forgotten, have lately turned upon my memory, which are sadly applicable to my poor Bessy's present afflictions. All that I remember of them is that they were written, at somebody's request, for some unhappy mother, who was suffering under the anguish they so poorly describe—

"There is no grief beneath the sun
Like that with which the mother sighs
Who sees her first—her only one,
Withering away before her eyes.

"And if that one be lov'd as well
As thou art, darling child, by me,
Ah, parents' hearts alone can tell
How deep thy parent's agony."

November 1st and 2nd. A visit from Lord Auckland and Miss Eden; neither of them much changed in appearance. Their friend, poor Russell, not able to receive Lord A. in his bed-room, but will, I trust, when they next come, as he now seems really to have made a rally. Took a long walk with Lord A. across the Spye Park fields, in order to put him in his way to Lacock. He has got grey and grave,—a sad alliteration.

3rd and 4th. Received an amusing little book about "Whist," with the following note from the anonymous author:—"The author of the accompanying trifle has been so frequently and so highly amused, delighted, and astonished with Mr. Moore's works, that he has requested his publishers to forward the volume with this note." A most anxious and urgent note from Lady Lansdowne asking me to come for two or three days during the stay of the Clarendons, John Russells, &c., and proposing an arrangement by which her carriage should

bring Mrs. Hughes to stay with Bessy during my absence, and then take her back again. Though not very well myself, and with a mind anything but comfortable, could not refuse such kind importunity. Nothing, indeed, could be more truly affectionate than Lady Lansdowne has been to my poor Bess during the whole of this sad trial. No sister could be kinder.

5th. To Bowood, the carriage having brought Mrs. Hughes; but I preferred walking thither. Company at dinner, the Aucklands, John Russells, Clarendons, Strangways, Lady Kerry, and one or two more.

6th. Read and worked a little during the day. In the evening volunteered to sing, seeing that Lady Lansdowne felt delicate about asking me. Was glad to be able to make the effort, and got on much better than I expected. All seemed greatly pleased.

7th. Meant to have closed my visit this morning, but Lady Lansdowne, and, indeed, the whole party, urged so anxiously my staying over to-day, that I agreed to return, if, on seeing how all was at home, I could do so with comfort. Lord John, too, offered to walk with me to Sloperon, both to see Mrs. Moore, and to bring me back. Our walk very agreeable, and, after sitting some time with Bessy, he returned to Bowood alone, taking along with him my promise to come to dinner. The same company as yesterday, with the addition only of Poulett Scrope. In the evening Lord John begged of me to begin my singing (if I *did* sing) a little earlier, in order that Lady John, who is obliged to go early to bed, might hear me; having missed it last night. Did so, of course.

13th and 14th. The Aucklands called on their way from Bowood (which they have left to go to Lord Grosvenor's), having promised to make another effort to see Russell; but the poor fellow was asleep, and they did not like to disturb him.

December. I have not had the heart to return to this Journal for some weeks past. All is over. Our dear boy expired on the 23rd of last month, and the calmness, sweetness, and manliness of his last moments were such as to leave, even in the mother's heart, not only comfort, but almost pleasure. He suffered but little indeed of actual pain throughout the whole illness, nor was it till two or

three days before his death that he became aware of his danger. His mother then, I think, suggested his taking the Sacrament, but he declined doing so. On the morning of the 23rd, he asked his mother to bring pen and ink, and make memorandums of some little gifts he wished to leave. After inquiring about a bequest of 100*l.* left by Betty Starkie, which was to fall at some distant period, he said, "Very well," and thus proceeded: "Mrs. Hughes may have my chain; she will like that." "And your seal ring," asked his mother; "there's your papa." "Papa won't wear it." "But he will use it." "Yes, my ring then, to papa." "Your dressing case; shall Tom have your dressing case?" "He wouldn't like it. Let Herbert Brabant have my dressing case." He then proceeded, "I should like to give something to Annie" (the daughter of our neighbour, Mr. Schomberg, with whom the poor fellow, before he went to India, was rather in love); "let Annie have the little seal." "What for Ellen? Would you like her to have the little lip-salve box, and Rogers's Italy?" "Yes; send my hunting-whip to Mr. Schomberg. Polly Hughes my blue purse. Mr. Hughes, of Buckhill, would like my pencil." "And what for Tom?" asked his mother, again. "I have nothing to leave that he would like. Give him my dying love, and Campbell's poems." He then stopped, as if to rest. "You haven't said anything for Mr. Starkie?" To this he made no reply.—Turning to Ruth, our good-natured housemaid, he thanked her for her kind attention to him during his illness, adding, "I suppose you'll soon be married, Ruth?" (the girl being, he knew, engaged). "Yes, sir, please God, sometime." He then spoke of his clothes, and desired that such as his brother Tom did not like should be sold or given to the poor. After he had rested a little while, his mother asked whether she could do anything to make him comfortable. "Read to me," he replied. "What shall it be?" "Read to me about the Communion." After she had read some time, he said, "I think I shall take it." His mother read a little more, and then said, "Should you like Mr. Drury sent for?" "Yes, but not now." The poor mother then read on until her feelings became too much for her, and she was obliged to stop. After an interval, she asked, "Would you like to see Mr. Drury

to-day?" "Yes." He became then composed, and his mother, as usual, washed him, brushed his hair and teeth, and scented his pocket handkerchief. Drury came, and, after having talked with him for a short time, said that he did not hesitate to give him the Sacrament as soon as he liked. "Now, or to-morrow?" "Now," answered the dear boy, and, turning to the mother, asked, "Will you take it, too?" "Yes." "Very good." He then attentively watched Drury's preparations for the Communion; and having before said that he feared Drury would find the room rather offensive, held out his handkerchief for him to smell to. He swallowed the consecrated bread with much difficulty; but when the ceremony was over, Bessy asked him how he felt, and he said, "Better, and more comfortable." "Should you like Mr. Drury to come again to-morrow?" said his mother. "Yes, if I'm alive." All this, which I have taken down from the poor mother's lips (not being able, myself, to stand the scene), took place on the morning of the 23rd, about eleven o'clock; and within three hours after our beloved child was a corpse.

December, 1842. It is with some reluctance that I enter on this Eleventh Volume of my Journal. I ought to have finished the year 1842 in the preceding volume, but I could not bear to return to its pages after my last melancholy record. If anything could heal such a sorrow as my dear Bessy's it would be the warm, the affectionate interest taken by all those —; but I forbear to say anything more on the sad subject, and I shall now pass to ordinary matters.

On the 5th of December, Bessy and I went to Bowood to luncheon. Lady Lansdowne had most kindly pressed us to come there immediately after the funeral and stay some time, telling Bessy that she should have apartments entirely to herself, where nobody else should come till she chose it. Nothing, indeed, could be more affectionate and sisterly than her whole manner and conduct towards my poor wife.

31st. A letter from Tom, which affected Bessy most sadly, telling us that he cannot come to us before his departure for Algiers. Bessy had counted upon seeing him most sanguinely, though (foreboding the difficulties that might arise) I endeavoured to prepare

her for such a disappointment. The reasons he assigns for not applying for a furlough under the circumstances in which he is placed seem all right and prudent, but, not the less for that, disappointing and saddening. A most kind letter from Lady Lansdowne to Bessy on this subject.

1843.

JANUARY, 1843.—4th. To Bowood. Party, chiefly foreign, consisting of the St. Aulaires, the Harcourts, Van de Weyer, Rothschilds, Bobus Smith, Austin, Byng. Had forgot that the St. Aulaires were old Paris friends of mine, but I had not been many minutes in the room before his Excellency himself rose briskly from his seat, and taking both my hands in his, led me in a sort of dancing step across the room, saying in French, "I am going to present you to an old friend of yours." This was Madame St. Aulaire, a very nice person, whom I used to meet at the De Broglies.—Sung a good deal in the evening, and seldom have had a more pleased and insatiable audience; the very handsome young Baroness Rothschild being not the least encouraging of my hearers. By the bye, a song was sent me some days since by an Irish lady (her own composition), in which there are four lines that took my fancy exceedingly, notwithstanding an unlucky defect in one of the rhymes.

"Oh, breathe not a word of our love,
Nor remember it ever hath been;
'Twas a beautiful dream from above,
And has flown back to heav'n again."

10th. I was mentioning some days since the circumstance of being one evening at Rogers's, when Wilkie was looking over a set of H. B.'s early things (the first time Wilkie had ever seen them); his admiring some of them as works of art, and saying, as he pointed to a bit in one of them, "That really reminds one of Titian." "*Politician*," muttered Bobus, who was sitting next me.

21st, 22nd. Received, some time since, the following from Moran, being the particulars of the death of my poor friend John Brown, whom I have mentioned in a note on "The Young May Moon" ("Irish Melodies"). The account is from a newspaper of Dec. 9, 1808. "Early in September last (1808), in the island of Mariegalante, John Brown, Esq., a native

of Belfast, and for some time a merchant in Dublin. The manner of his death made it the more distressing to his relatives and numerous friends. On his passage from Antigua to another island, on a mercantile speculation, the ship he sailed in was captured, and carried by the French into *Marigalante*, shortly before it was taken by the English forces. The French force having come to a determination to capitulate, they liberated Mr. Brown for the purpose of communicating with the British. Unhappily his joy at his deliverance made him neglect the precaution of taking with him a flag of truce; and on approaching the posts of the British he received a ball in the heart from a black sentinel in their service."

February 1st, 2nd. I find that, among my memoranda for December last, I omitted one (to me most tryingly important), namely, my remittance to Tom of another hundred and odd pounds, to enable him to leave Paris for Algiers. Not having the money (nor, indeed, anything approaching it), I had given him authority to raise the sum in Paris, by a bill upon me at three months. But, on trying to do so, he found that, if manageable at all, it would be at a most ruinous sacrifice. I therefore, immediately on learning this from him (as there was no time to be lost), drove into *Devizex*, and drew on the Longmans for 100*l.* at three months, adding (at Bessy's suggestion) 20*l.* more from a small deposit I had at the bank, and despatched it to him by that day's post. Was kept in a state of much anxiety in the short interval between this *ex-tempore* draft and the Longmans' answer, and was much relieved by their replying not only affirmatively, but courteously. My poor Bess much disappointed at Tom's not being able (as we had expected) to pay us a visit before his launch into this "new sea of troubles."

The following is Chabot's letter to me (dated December 8th) announcing Tom's appointment:—

"MY DEAR MR. MOORE,—I am requested by Madame Adelaide, to inform you that your son has been named, according to your wishes, a '*Sous-Lieutenant dans la Légion Étrangère en Afrique.*' Her Royal Highness has no doubt that your son will do credit in every

way to her recommendation. It seems he is the first Englishman who has got a commission in that Legion, and, as many foreigners are on the minister's lists, it was rather a difficult matter to obtain it. I was very glad to hear from your son that you were in good health and spirits, and busy on your interesting work upon Ireland. Believe me, my dear Mr. Moore, yours very truly, "CHABOT."

24th, 25th. Another letter from Tom (dated from Mostaganem, I think), in which he tells me that he is "twenty times worse off than he was in India," and I have little doubt, poor fellow, that it is a hard and pinching fate for him; the pay being as low as the service is inglorious and perilous. He has been "*succ fortune faber*;" and bungling work the poor weak boy has made of it. However (hard driven as I am), some further effort must be made to save him.

March 23rd. Breakfasted at Rogers's, to meet Jeffrey and Lord John,—two of the men I like best among all my numerous friends. Jeffrey's volubility (which was always superabundant) becomes even more copious, I think, as he grows older. But I am ashamed of myself for finding *any* fault with him. Long may he flourish "*in omne volubilis ævum.*" Walked about a good deal with Hume, or rather cabbed with him; he paying, as usual, the damage. Made visits to Miss Rogers, Mrs. Tom Longman, &c. Forget where I dined. Was rejoiced to find that the Kennares were in London, and called upon them one of these mornings. Ten years she told me, since we last met. Ten? alas, I make a mistake. She said, I fear, twenty! "So runs the hour away."

27th. Have again got into the scrape of being bemonstered by a portrait-painter. Tom Longman's anxiety for a new portrait to prefix to the "*Melodies*" has conquered my resolution, and I have commenced sitting to Mr. Richmond, who has worked wonders, it is said, with unmanageable faces such as mine. Dined at Lord Auckland's: company, his brother and wife, and Lord and Lady Robert Grosvenor. Auckland's brother, an excellent specimen of the best kind of country clergyman; simple, zealous, and, as far as I could see, sensible.

April. Received a letter from Whewell (*the*

Whewell) relative to the statue of Lord Byron by Thorwaldsen, which it was intended to place in Westminster Abbey. "I do not know," says Whewell, "what is the present prospect of such an intention being realized, but have been told that some thoughts are entertained of finding another place for the statue. If this is so, allow me to ask whether the application would be favourably received, if either Lord Byron's college or his university were to request to have the honour of finding a worthy situation for this work of art. His college [Trinity] would be willing to place it in the library, a noble one built by Wren, 200 feet long, and containing at present, I believe, the best collection of sculpture portraits in England by Roubilliac, the greater part, like Lord Byron, members of the College. You are aware that Lord B. formed at his college friendships which he valued though life; and he is still recollected with regard by resident members of the college. He would be among a crowd of admirers of his genius, and, I may add, the building is daily open to strangers, and is visited by all who visit any of the University sights. The other situation which I should wish to propose, if the College be refused, is the new Fitzwilliam Museum, a noble building intended as a museum of arts, and just erected from the designs of Basevi. This edifice will be ready for the reception of works of art in a few years, and if you and the Committee who have to direct the disposal of the statue were inclined to accede to such a request, I shall move our Fitzwilliam Syndicate to request that the work should be placed in the part of the Museum which is appropriated to statues."

May. Received a letter from the second son (as he tells me) of my friend Wyse, the Member for Waterford, asking for my autograph. "I have derived," he says, "many a happy hour in the perusal of your compositions, which otherwise would have been hours of melancholy and sorrow; and you may rest assured that I will preserve whatever you may be pleased to send as a valuable memorial of one to whom I shall ever feel grateful." In the course of his letter he asks, "Is it true you intend to translate into English numbers the hymns of the Catholic Church? for, I have more than once heard it affirmed and denied that such was the case." This has arisen, I

dare say, from a conversation I had once, with Bishop Baines at Prior Park, when he showed me, and indeed gave me, a copy of the "Preces Matutinæ ac Vespertinæ" of the Catholic Church, and said how frequently he had wished that I would undertake a translation of them. Young Wyse, in his letter, quotes the lines of mine (from Lalla Rookh) which he wishes me to transcribe for him. I had entirely forgotten them myself, but I must say that he has not chosen very badly. I give them here, as I find them in his letter—

"Who that surveys this span of earth we press,
This speck of life in Time's great wilderness,—
This narrow isthmus 'twixt two boundless seas,
The Past, the Present, two Eternities!
Would sully the bright spot, or leave it bare,
When he might build him a bright temple there,
A name that long shall hallow all its space,
And be each purer soul's high resting-place."

* * * I have mentioned, some pages back, a new German translation of Lalla Rookh which has been lately sent me from Bremen. Brabant has since given me an abstract of the touching Preface which the father of the youth, Dr. Mencke, has prefixed to the work.

"In the Preface, or rather Dedication," says Brabant, "prefixed to this translation, some particulars are given of the author. He was the son of a professor, but himself not fond of letters; and, till he had completed his nineteenth year, a clerk in a counting-house. Up to this period his chief pleasure had been hunting and the other sports of the field. But admiration of Lalla Rookh checked his pleasure-loving propensity, and, under the assistance of a professor of the name of Ruperti, he applied himself to a careful perusal of this poem, with occasional attempts at translation; till at length he came to the determination to translate the whole work. In the meantime, a diseased state of lungs began to make itself known, and his life was evidently in danger; but this did not prevent the execution of his task. He died in 1841, being at that time little more than twenty years of age, leaving in MSS. the entire translation excepting only one song. The father was desirous of manifesting his affection for his son by giving a permanent form to this effort of his genius, at least, of his industry; and having submitted the MSS. to the perusal of a gentleman of the name of Wiliken, he at length has sent this translation to the press. In particular, he begs to dedicate it to Ruperti, who had contributed so much to

the cultivation of the intellectual powers of the deceased." Brabant adds, "I am not a competent judge, but the little I have read and compared appears to me well and elegantly rendered."

June 5th. Breakfasted with Lord John. Shocked to find that I had promised myself yesterday to Sir Charles Lemon as well as to Bunbury; but if people will not send reminders, what is a many-dinnered gentleman to do? Found myself in another scrape to-day, having promised my company to some Amphytrion or other, but couldn't in the least remember *who*. Heard rather bad accounts of the conference yesterday between Addison and Mrs. Power. Dinner hour approached, and still no clue to the "*vrai amphytrion chez qui on dînaît*." In this exigence recollected that Rogers told me he was to dine at home and alone; and so sauntered down to St. James's Place, about a quarter past seven, on the principle that "social sorrow loses half its pain," and that as we neither of us had dinners, we had better dine together. Just as I was passing Burdett's, Mrs. Otway Cave's carriage stopped at the door, and as I handed her out, she asked, "Where are you going?" "To dine with Rogers," I said, "if he is at home." "You had better far stop here," she replied, "for I see dinner is on the table." So in I turned with her, and found myself welcomed most heartily, there being but one other guest, and he an old acquaintance of past days, whose name and self I had long since forgotten. Got on very agreeably, and as Lady John Russell had asked me to join them in the evening, at Drury Lane, went home and dressed. Found the whole family party in the Duke of Bedford's box, and having seen through a petite piece (I forget about what) went off from thence to the Polish Fancy Ball, where Horatia Fielding was mistress of the revels (being the leader of the chief quadrille), and did not get home till between two and three o'clock in the morning! Some one mentioned to-day that Charles Napier*, in writing to a friend the night before his late victory at Meeanee, said, "If I survive, I shall soon be with those I love; if I fall, I shall be with those I *have* loved."

9th. Dined with Everett, the American Minister, and handed into dinner a very pretty and *aimante*-looking young American, to

* The late General Sir Charles Napier.

whom (as I remember a countryman of mine once saying of a young lady whom he met for a quarter of an hour in a stage coach) I "became very much attached." What her name was, however, I forgot to ask.

24th and 25th. While in town, I quoted one day to Rogers, as Shakspeare's, and as beautiful, the following lines:—

"And if I laugh at any mortal thing,
'Tis that I may not weep."*

The next time we met, I found he had been in quest of the lines, thinking as I did of them, and it turns out that they are Byron's.

July 9th and 10th. A letter from an American, dated from West Chester, Pennsylvania, contains the following passage:—"It may perhaps be a gratification to you to know that, even in the abodes of the plainest and humblest of those who seem entirely destitute of refinement, you are known and loved; and our most cherished songs are those melodies which will live as long as memory has power to soothe the soul of man, or feeling to soften his heart."

August 3rd. Breakfasted, I think, at Brookes's. Dined at Tom Longman's. Company, the German traveller, Kohl, Lord Monteaule, and some others. Songs in the evening from Mrs. Tom and myself. Came away with Lord Monteaule, and as I was getting out of his carriage at Brookes's, slipped and strained my shoulder so much in the effort to recover myself that I felt near fainting.

4th. Found my shoulder, though very stiff, quite well enough to admit of my travelling: so I set off by the ten o'clock train for Combe Florey. The day fine and cheering. Found no one but the host, hostess, and son.

5th. Sydney drove me out in his gig to show me Sir Thos. Lethbridge's place (Sandhill). The day delicious and the country fine, but neither Sydney's horse nor his driving were such as to allow me sufficient ease for any enjoyment of the scene. The horse, which had evidently been better fed than taught, took at last to rearing, and I (as the safer break-neck expedient of the two) jumped out and walked the remainder of the way home. Sydney's wit and eke his good sense (*i. e.* upon paper) nobody doubts, but to trust himself with such a horse is stark

* [*Don Juan*, canto iv. st. 4.]

staring foolish. An accession to the party at dinner by the arrival from town of Mrs. Holland with her niece, step-daughter, and one or two other females of the family. Sung a good deal for them in the evening.

6th. Started after breakfast for Taunton, where I had to wait some time for the train. The day delicious, and, being quite alone, I had full enjoyment of the beautiful country through which (or rather over which) I flew. I remember a pretty scene in some ballet where the centre of the stage represented a river on which the hero of the tale sat in a boat, rowing away with all his might, and appearing to pass through a succession of beautiful rural scenery, which was effected, of course, by the constant change of the back scene, and the appearance of progress it gave to the boat. I wanted nothing but the sweet music that accompanied this delusion on the stage to make the enjoyment of my real journey complete. During the stay for nearly an hour at Bristol, I saw our guard tell one of the official persons at the station who I was, and soon after this person addressed himself to me very civilly, and asked if I felt the carriage I was in quite comfortable, as he should be happy to put on one of the easiest they possessed for me. I thanked him, of course, for this courtesy, and said I was perfectly comfortable. Stopped at the Bowood Gate, and left my luggage, not knowing whether I was to dine with the Lansdownes or at home. Found from my sweet Bess it was to be the former. Walked then to Bowood. Party at dinner only the John Russells and myself.

7th. Same party. Lord and Lady John both very anxious that I should visit them at Endsleigh, and there is nothing I should like better. But Bessy *wouldn't*, and even if she *would*, my purse *couldn't*. It is, however, not the less good-natured of them to ask.

12th and 13th. An accumulation of letters and odds and ends of every possible description. Must first despatch some waggeries connected with Combe Florey. Sydney had often laughed at me while there for my occasional absences, and the following letter alludes to them:—

“August 7th, 1843.

“DEAR MOORE,—The following articles
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have been found in your room and forwarded by the Great Western. A right-hand glove, an odd stocking, a sheet of music paper, a missal, several letters, apparently from ladies, an Elegy on Phelim O'Neil. There is also a bottle of eau de Cologne. What a careless mortal you are.

“God bless you.”

Scribbled him off in return some doggrel, of which I have not kept a copy, but they are pretty nearly as follows :

“Rev. Sir,—Having duly received by the post
Your list of the articles missing and lost
By a certain small poet, well known on the road,
Who has lately set up at your flowery abode,
We have balanced what Hume calls ‘the tittle o’ the whole,’
(Making all due allowance for what the bard stole)
And, hoping th’ enclosed will be found quite correct,
Have the honour, Rev. Sir, to be
yours with respect.

Left behind a kid glove that once made a pair,
An odd stocking, whose fellow is—heaven knows where;
* * * * *

Such was all that, on diligent search we can find
Which the bard, so mis-called, in his flight left behind;
While, thief as he is, he took slyly away
Rich treasures to last him for many a day.
Recollections unnumbered of Sunny Combe Florey;
Its cradle of hills where it slumbers in glory;
Its Sydney himself, and the countless bright things
Which his tongue or his pen from deep-shining springs
Of wisdom and wit ever-flowingly brings.
Such being, on both sides, the ‘tittle’ amount,
We shall leave to your Rev’rence to settle th’ account.

October 9th and 10th. The following critical letter, sent me again to my own volumes (which I am beginning, I confess, to be rather sick of), in order to see how far the objector is right in his criticisms:—

“As a standard edition of the Irish Melodies will be shortly published, I call on Mr. Moore to consider whether the alterations he has made are always improvements. The curious reading in ‘Eveleen’s Bower’ must be owing to a misprint. A word is changed injudiciously in ‘Believe me if all thy endearing young charms,’ and in ‘Oh the days are gone.’ The alteration in ‘It is not the tear’ is diabolical. In the song of O’Rourke, the change of ‘they’ into ‘our’ takes from that splendid lyric much of its beauty; the present spiritless reading completely spoils those lines where sorrow and indignation seem to strive for the mastery,” &c. &c. This gentleman (whoever he may be, for he affixes no signature), having proceeded thus to a pretty

large extent, adds, "Mr. Moore has turned out quite a Fadladeen in his criticisms." After giving me these cuts in the head, my critic thus, at the end, applies his plaster. "I hope these remarks will not be ill taken. They are made by one who regards Mr. Moore with veneration and love."

20th and 21st. Another critical gentleman calls me to account for the alterations he finds in the words of some of my songs. "There is," he says, "another matter I may mention to you, and that is the pertinacity with which, through so many editions, the printers adhere to 'Moonlight' for 'Moonlit' almost invariably throughout the Melodies; and really, in this age of parlour music without meaning, it is tormenting to hear a beautiful idea beautifully expressed marred in its passage to the mind, by some boarding-school Miss misreading it; for instance,

" ' While smoothly go our gondolets
O'er the moonlight sea.'

You cannot fail to perceive, my dear sir, how the *light* darkens the beauty of the thought." In consequence of this gentleman's letter I have taken the trouble of looking back to earlier editions, and find it has been always "Moonlight sea," and (*pace tanti hominis*) so it shall remain. What does Shakspeare say? "Come see our moonlight revels." * *

November 2nd. I have seen a letter which Sydney Smith much admired, from his *anti-repudiation lady*, but Susan Hughes, the other day, showed me a letter from a young female friend of hers (only twenty years of age) which, on a different subject, is full as well and pithily expressed; and I shall here give a copy of it. "You say you do not think women have any rights. I'll give you credit for jesting when you said that. For myself, I don't care about women having any actual share in the Government, &c., but I *do* care that women should be recognized as the other half of mankind, and not as a third, or quarter, as is too common. It seems to me that there are comparatively very few of our sex who feel what high capacious powers lie folded up in them as well as in *man*. They think so much more of *seeing* than of *being*. I wish earnestly that women would think on these things; and then, when their nature is purified and exalted, whatever rights may become theirs will follow naturally. With respect to

politics, it seems to me that those who think the female mind too low, or too high, or too something or other to take an interest in such things, make a great mistake. Whatever really interests the heart of humanity must surely interest one half as well as the other. Different spheres of usefulness may suit different characters and sexes. But whatever comes from the heart,—the cry of justice, the struggle for freedom, the endeavour to promote the diffusion of intelligence and virtue,—surely all these will go to the heart also. Though we may not perhaps be fitted or suited to go and fight in the battle against wrong, surely we may give the Godspeed to those who do; and that will be better than nothing; far better than joining in the senseless cry of peace, peace, where there is *no* peace. Can we, ought we, to see our fellow creatures starving for the bread of earth and the bread of Heaven, and not even 'pray for our country?' As to party squabbles and paltry tissues of words without thoughts, they are not worthy of *men*, and, therefore, not of women. It is for principles they should stand up."

3rd and 4th. The application to me for autographs becomes a serious nuisance, more especially in its new form of asking questions; those questions, too, being generally such as one can hardly in common civility decline answering. This last week I have had to write twice to the Messrs. Bosanges, foreign booksellers, respecting a query of theirs, whether the Kelly mentioned in my "Life of Byron," was *Michael* Kelly; the delay of my answer to this important question having rendered *two* letters from me necessary instead of only one. In another instance a gentleman named Stevenson, who dates from the Quay, Great Yarmouth, thus catechises me:—"In cataloguing my library I generally add bibliographical notes to each work or set of works, and shall feel greatly obliged if you will inform me who holds the copyright of your works, and how many editions have been published? Have any translations been made of any part and published? Did you ever read 'Psyche, or the Legend of Love,' by Mrs. Henry Tighe? I think I have heard your name mentioned in connection with the authorship of 'Psyche,' by an octogenarian of my acquaintance, one of the literati. What's

your opinion of the legend and its authoress," &c. &c.

25th. At the end of last week Bessy went to dine at Bowood, an entirely female and family party: Lady Elizabeth, Lady Mount Edgcombe, Mrs. Talbot, and *Lady Bess*. I have just stumbled on a rough copy of the letter which I wrote to Madame Adelaide at the time when I was applying to her in behalf of our unlucky Tom, and may as well transcribe it here; though I take for granted it was a good deal retouched and improved in the copy which I ultimately sent. "Madame, —It is impossible for me to express as I ought the deep gratitude which I feel towards your Royal Highness and his Majesty, your illustrious brother, for the kind and prompt attention which you have both so graciously paid to my request. The hope held out by my son's letter to me that Maréchal Soult will take my son's case into consideration, has given me the sincerest pleasure; and I trust your Royal Highness will forgive my trespassing so far on your patience as to give a more detailed account of the circumstances which have led to my venturing on such a request. The military profession in England is fit only for the sons of the rich; and as I have been, all my life, one of the poorest of poor gentlemen, I should never have dreamt of putting my sons in the army had it not been so decidedly their own wish, that I thought myself bound to make the effort. With great difficulty, and, what is still worse, by incurring a debt which I am still paying, I managed to purchase for my eldest son (the object of your Royal Highness's kind patronage) an ensigncy and lieutenancy in succession; which, together with what I was obliged to add annually to his pay for the two or three years he has been in the army, has amounted nearly to 1500*l*. After all this effort on my part, he got ill in India, was led into expenses beyond his means, was obliged to sell those commissions which it had cost me so much brain-work to acquire for him, and is now living on the few remains of that last resource in Paris. I have ventured to enter into these details because your Royal Highness has made me feel that I *may* do so, without offending; and because, through your kindly intervention, the real state of my son's position may become known to Maréchal Soult, and thereby remove from his mind any

impression he might naturally have conceived that it was through some misconduct on the part of my son that I have been driven to make this application. On the contrary, so kind an interest did the authorities of the Horse Guards take in his position, that they suspended, for some time, their sanction of the sale of the commission, in order to give me an opportunity of still repairing the misfortune by paying back the sum of money which my son had received in part payment (*viz.* 400*l*. out of 700*l*.), and thus enabling them still to retain him in his present position.* Of this great kindness, however, I was unable to avail myself, having exhausted not only my former resources, but intrenched deeply on the future; and though I have friends who, I doubt not, would have come to my aid, if asked, none offered their assistance; and (till now, at least,) I have not been reduced to the pain of asking. Had he not unluckily adopted the army as his profession, I could far more easily have provided for him in some civil line. But now Algiers is his whole and sole resource; and under your Royal Highness's kind intercession, I begin to hope (though hoping with a heavy heart) that the poor boy may yet succeed. I shall venture to finish this appeal by adding a few words respecting my second son, John Russell. With much less expense, of course, I fitted him out for the military service of the East India Company. But, after a year and a quarter in Calcutta, passed most of the time in severe illness, he has returned to us in a state little removed, I fear, from death, being only saved from dying there by the great kindness of my old friend, Lord Auckland, who received and lodged him, for the greater part of the time, at Government House."

I forget whether I sent the whole of these homely details to Her Royal Highness; but, knowing what thoroughly unaffected and *home-feeling* people all the women of that family are, I felt I was taking the best road to their hearts and sympathies by these plain, circumstantial details.

December 1st and 2nd. Received this morning a startling letter (but *agreeably* so), which I have not now time to notice further than to

* It is deeply to be regretted that Moore's friends were not aware of this kind proposal of Lord Fitzroy Somerset. Many would have been glad of the opportunity.

say, that it announces to me a bequest of 300*l.* from a gentleman, lately deceased, in Ireland, who had left it as a token of his gratitude for the pleasure which he had received from the "Irish Melodies."

3rd, 4th. The following is the letter:—

"Macroon, 29th November, 1843.

"ESTEEMED SIR,—I have the pleasure to inform you that the late Michael Foley Macnamara, Esq., of this town, has bequeathed you the sum of three hundred pounds, as a testimony of his affection for you as a poet and patriot, and the never-ending gratification he experienced from your 'Irish Melodies.' The words of the lamented gentleman, in conveying this sum, are these:—'To Thomas Moore, Esq., the sum of three hundred pounds, a small but sincere tribute of the esteem I hold him in as a patriot and a poet, and respectfully request his acceptance of the same.' I deem it but justice to the memory of Mr. Macnamara to add, that he often, in conversation with myself and others, repudiated the ingratitude of our unhappy land for not having raised a national tribute worthy of the services conferred on it by the publication of your 'Irish Melodies,' a sentiment truly in accordance with my own. The bequests of Mr. Macnamara are now in course of payment, and I, as trustee, shall have the pleasure of transmitting you the sum named on receipt of your letter pointing out the mode by which it will safely reach you. I have the honour to be, sir, most obediently yours,

THOMAS LEE, P. P., Macroon."

Lest this letter should turn out to be only a cruel hoax, I have been very cautious in my mode of answering it, saying, that so very rare were such truly generous and thoughtful acts, that I could not bring myself all at once to believe in the *reality* of the gift. That being daily in the habit of receiving letters from utter strangers, written on various pretences, but having most of them no other object than the now reigning rage for autographs, he must excuse me if I waited another letter from him before I noticed any further his communication.

19th. Meant to have stayed at Lacock two or three days, but Mary Hughes (whom I left with Bessy) being called away by the death of one of her aunts, I was obliged to return

home. So much of late has been left unjournalised by me, that I hardly know where to take up the thread. Much of it, too, has been painful, and most especially a letter from Tom, asking me for 50*l.* as quite necessary to keep *him out of prison*. Much of the debt which this sum is wanted for was incurred, he tells me, on his first arrival. when, not having yet got into the ways of the place, he was led into some expenses that were not quite necessary. Much as all this distressed me, yet, having pretty nearly the amount he asked for at the banker's, I felt that I could not do otherwise than send it, though God knows how I shall manage, in my present reduced state, to get on. Sent 30*l.* immediately, and promised that the rest should soon follow. In the interval it was that the cruel letter from Macroon arrived, announcing to me the legacy, and there was an air of truth and reality about it which half lured my poor Bess and myself into hailing it as a providential Godsend. Already, indeed, her generous heart was apportioning out the different presents it would enable her to make to my sister, to the poor H.'s, &c., &c. Alas, alas! I wish no worse to the ingenious gentleman who penned the letter than an exactly similar disappointment.

30th and 31st. A strange life mine; but the best as well as pleasantest part of it lies *at home*. I told my dear Bessy, this morning, that while I stood at my study window, looking out at her, as she crossed the field, I sent a blessing after her. "Thank you, bird," she replied, "that's better than money;" and so it is. "Bird" is a pet name she gave me in our younger days, and was suggested by Hamlet's words, "Hillo, ho, ho, boy! come bird, come;" being the call, it seems, which falconers use to their hawk in the air when they would have him come down to them.

1844.

JANUARY 4th. Paid a visit to my wife, who was staying with our friends at Buckhill. Addition to the party at dinner of Hobhouse, Sydney Smith, and one or two more. Was made again to sing in the evening, and gave Miss Fox her favourite rebel song, "We tread the land that bore us." Told them of the new reading suggested in this song: instead of "The friends we've tried," to make it "The friends *they*'ve tried."

9th. A visit from Byng and Gore (Lord Arran's brother). Sat some time. Lady Lansdowne generally gives some hints to her guests not to break in on my mornings. But Byng is an old friend, and so he was welcome.

19th and 20th. Forgot to commemorate here, though it gave me great pleasure to hear it from Lady Kerry, that Dr. Kinsella, the Catholic bishop of Kilkenny, is a great admirer of my—"What for a duet?"—my poor neglected "History of Ireland!" I made her repeat it over again to me (to her great amusement), in order to be quite sure that I heard her rightly.

February 2nd to 4th. A note from Phillips, the music lecturer, &c., offering me a box, whenever I may come to town, to hear his lecture on the Hebrew Melodies, and proposing the following strange query to me:—"I have been told that you presented the original copy of 'The meeting of the waters' to the landlady of the inn at the foot of the Vale of Avoca. Is this true? Because I do not like asserting that to the public which I cannot substantiate." He is very right; and I myself should find it very hard to substantiate when, where, or how I wrote that ballad at all. As to my presenting it fresh from the mint of inspiration to the fat landlady at the foot of the vale, that's too good a story to spoil, so I shall leave it for Mr. Phillips' next lecture.

8th to 10th. Have been laid up all this time more with the consequences of influenza than that disease itself, the violent coughing having strained me so much that I found it necessary to send for Norman to Bath; at least, my dear Bessy, in her anxiety, thought it necessary, though at an expense of 10*l.*, which was the amount of his fee. Such is her noble nature; sparing of all unnecessary expenditure, but on great occasions, whether of use, honest pride, or generosity, ready to the last farthing.

14th and 15th. I often think of a passage in one of Lady Lansdowne's notes lately to Bessy, the feeling of which is as just, I believe, as it is melancholy. "I never," she says, "can wish any one I love to live long."

16th. I see that O'Connell's closing speech on leaving Dublin winds up with the following anticipation of his fate, from the "Melodies"—

"Far dearer the grave or the prison
Illumed by one patriot name,
Than the trophies of all who have risen
On Liberty's ruins to fame."

The poor "Melodies" have had their share of suffering in the cause. I remember a little barrister in Dublin, who, during a pause that took place in my work, brought out a collection of Melodies of his own; and the facetious Dublin people used to call them the "Counsellor's *Maladies*." While on this subject I shall give an extract from a letter received by me many months since, the writer being a brother melodist, the parish priest of Castle-town delvin. "Once again," he says, "pray accept my most grateful thanks for all your great kindness, and you will not deem the prayer less acceptable, because offered by a priest and a countryman, when I wish you the enjoyment hereafter in heaven of those more abundant and undying glories, many of which, here even upon earth, Heaven has already bestowed upon you."

17th and 18th. There have been few fames of a *quiet* kind kept alive and cherished so fondly as that of my poor friend Mrs. Tighe. I have received several letters about her in the course of this last year; and the following reached me about two months since:—"* * In a collection of poems I have seen one of yours addressed to 'Mary;' and affixed to it is a note stating that it is supposed to have been written to Mrs. H. Tighe. A friend of mine informs me, on the authority of Mrs. Blackford, that you used sometimes to style her daughter your 'guardian angel;' and if indeed she be so still, your companionship is holy, your society sweet; the very idea is elevating, and I trust often ministers to holy associations of thought."

20th to 22nd. A letter from R. S. Mackenzie, dated from "University Herald" Office, Oxford, begins by saying that he sees by Longman's list I am now concluding (would to Heaven I were) my very difficult task, the "History of Ireland," and proceeds to say: "It strikes me that if you include Emmett's affair of 1803 you might like to know that a copy of his speech, on the trial, is in existence, in his own writing. Mr. Marshal, who gives out the books in the Reading Room of the Museum, is in possession of that document, and I believe can trace it from the hands of the person to whom Emmett gave it. As a

politico-literary paper, it may interest the poet and historian of Ireland."

March 1st to 3rd. Still in a state of recumbency: Have had two or three very kind notes from Brodie, asking me to come up and put myself under his care, which I have made up my mind to do, as soon as I think myself in a travelling state. Most kind letters from Lady Lansdowne to Bessy, making inquiries about me. Meanwhile I work a little at my "History;" or rather, I ought to say, work a great deal to produce but a little.

4th to 6th. I see my friend John of Tuam, the "Lion of the fold of Judah," as he is called by the Repealers, continues to publish in monthly numbers his translations into Irish of Homer and the Irish Melodies. My latest newspapers from Dublin contain specimens of the work, together with remarks on the version of the Melodies, of which here are some specimens: "To all who are acquainted with Irish literature it is well known that the Archbishop of Tuam has for some time past snatched an occasional moment from the little leisure which the onerous cares of his pastoral duties allow him, for the purpose of rendering into our own ancient and harmonious tongue those sweet melodies of our glorious Moore which have so often excited sympathy or aroused indignation for our country's wrongs in lowly cottage as well as in lordly castles, &c. &c." "Of the fidelity and beauty (says the writer) of the translations, it is impossible to speak in terms too eulogistic. Irish scholars are already aware of the exquisite manner in which the songs published in the two former numbers have been rendered in Irish." The writer then gives specimens of the translation which may be (for aught I know, alas,)

"Sweeter than all the heathen Greek
Which Helen spoke when Paris wooed."

There is one curious circumstance, however, which I did understand, namely, that "in the Irish version the metre of the original is accurately adhered to in each song." I sung them over to myself (as far as I could decipher the words), and found this to be the case.

Here's an anonymous scrap which I received a month or two since, and which, as a proof that *some* people give a thought to my poor Irish History, is welcome and consoling to me, homely as my friend the suggester is.

"SIR,—It would be a great convenience to the poor people of this country if you would republish the 'History of Ireland' in monthly numbers. Moreover, as Ireland is the general topic of conversation! Also Ossian's poems, and to establish his real birth-place, which surely is not Scotland.

"A WELL-WISHER TO IRELAND."

10th and 11th. Oddly enough, since I transcribed the foregoing scrap, I received a letter from Mrs. Shelley, whom I had not seen or heard of for many months, and she, too, is pleased to be pleased with my Ireland. "But you do not," she says, "come to town, so I write at last that I may not be quite dead to you. You cannot be so to me; for your delightful volumes on Ireland would remind me, even could I forget your kindness in old times."

12th. Forget whether I mentioned some months back a precious present made to me by a young Pole, of the proof-sheets of a Polish translation of the Fire Worshippers, rendered more precious by the circumstances associated with it. In thanking John of Tuam for a copy of his *doubly* Irish Melodies, I thus alluded to the gift of the Pole: "I shall place it on the same shelf with a precious fragment I was presented with the other day, namely, the proof-sheets of a Polish translation of my Fire Worshippers, which were themselves snatched from the fire in the last rout and flight of the poor Poles from their persecutors. The two translations will lie kindredly together."

I need hardly say why the following extract from Miss Strickland's Elizabeth took my fancy: "'For that matter,' replied (Sir Thomas) Smith, 'I, for my part, make small account of height, provided the Queen's Majesty can fancy him. Since Pepinus Brevis, who married Bertha, the King of Germany's daughter, was so little to her that he is standing in Aquisgrana, or Moguerre, a church in Germany, she taking him by the hand, that his head reaches not her girdle, and yet he had by her Charlemagne, the great Emperor-King of France, reported to be almost a giant in stature.' * * * Thus did Ambassador Smith fluently vindicate the worth and valour of little men."

"Perishable nature of modern poetry. We

have seen too much of the perishable nature of modern literary fame, to venture to predict to Mrs. Hemans that hers will be immortal, or even of very long duration. Since the beginning of our critical career we have seen a vast deal of beautiful poetry pass into oblivion, in spite of our feeble efforts to recall or retain it in remembrance. The tuneful quartos of Southey are already little better than lumber; and the rich melodies of Keats and Shelley, and the fantastical emphasis of Wordsworth, and the plebeian pathos of Crabbe, are melting fast from the field of our vision. The novels of Scott have put out his poetry. Even the splendid strains of Moore are fading into distance and dimness, except where they have been married to immortal music; and the blazing star of Byron himself is receding from its place of pride. We need say nothing of Milman, and Croly, and Atherton, and Hood, and a legion of others, who, with no ordinary gifts of taste and fancy, have not so properly survived their fame, as been excluded by some hard fatality from what seemed their just inheritance. The two who have the longest withstood this rapid withering of the laurel, and with the least mark of decay on their branches, are Rogers and Campbell, neither of them, it may be remarked, voluminous writers, and both distinguished rather for the fine taste, and consummate elegance of their writings, than for that fiery passion, and disdainful vehemence, which seemed for a time to be so much more in favour with the public."—*Criticism of Lord Jeffrey*.

"What thanks do we owe, what respects and regards
To Jeffrey, the old nursery-maid of us bards.
Who, resolved, to the last, his vocation to keep,
First whipped us all round and now puts us to sleep."

15th. Having got a little more confidence in my bodily state, set off to town, and being allowed by Lady Elizabeth to take up my quarters in Sackville Street, found everything there most comfortably ready for me.

17th. A kind note from Brodie, asking me to dine with him. Company, a party of men, all strangers to me. B. himself very kind and agreeable. Rogers had wanted me to meet the Headforts at dinner with him, but my Doctor claimed the precedence.

20th. Breakfasted at home, and went immediately after to the State Paper Office, where

I worked about the same length of time as yesterday. Dined at Lansdowne House to meet only Lord Normanby, and accompany them afterwards to the French play; of which I soon got tired, and went home.

21st. Went to the British Museum, and made my searches for some hours. Much struck with the beauty and neatness of the manuscript volume containing the despatches of Fevre de la Bodèrie, who was French Minister to the English Court in the reign of James I. Went with Rogers to dine at his sister's. A large party, and considerable addition to it in the evening; when some young ladies sung duets very agreeably, and I was much pressed to sing also, but the party being too large, declined.

22nd. Was much surprised the other day at hearing Mr. Lemon (of the State Paper Office) say that Lingard had never come to consult their papers. This from any other authority I should have pronounced downright impossible; but as far as I have yet had time to examine, am inclined to believe it true, for, in a volume of his which I am at present employed upon, all the authorities he cites are from other sources. I have since seen one or two references by Lingard to letters in the State Paper Office.

I find, from the want of my usual memorandums, it is not in my power to specify dates, places, persons, &c., as I usually do in journalising; and so must (to use a *poetical* expression) *lump* the whole together as correctly as I can manage. Besides the dinners already noted, I dined, the day following my dinner with Rogers, at Tom Longman's. Talbot and I went together. A very good party. Macaulay, Sydney Smith and wife, and many more. In the evening was made to sing a good deal.

Dined another day with the Lionel Rothschilds, and sate at dinner next to the pretty Baroness herself. * * *

* * * Young D'Israeli, the only one of the guests that I knew or now remember. Sung a good deal; Madame Rothschild herself also sung, and very well.

April 1st to 3rd. John O'Connell, who has taken to quoting me as well as his father, gave a new reading of me the other day, in one of his speeches, which, for aught I know, may be an improvement. In "Oh the sight

entrancing," instead of "The sword may pierce the beaver," he makes it "The falchion's blade may shiver."

May 1st and 2nd. Received a letter from my old Paris friend, Wright, on a subject which we used often to converse upon; namely, the much-agitated text of 1 John, v. 7, which he is employed in writing a history of for the Encyclopædia of Biblical Literature; detailing everything of any interest respecting it from Erasmus to Scholz, the last critical editor of the New Testament: "Who, you are no doubt aware," says Wright, "has omitted the passage as altogether spurious." He then tells me that Dr. Todd of Dublin is examining for him over again the Codex Montfort in the Library of Trinity College, which has been generally supposed to have been the Cod. Britannicus of Erasmus, the solitary MS. which led him, against the authority of all others, to insert the text in his 3rd edition. It is, however, (continues Wright) far from certain that this is the same MS. He then adds as follows: "Dr. Todd is also examining for me with the same view the Codex Armachanus, which is referred to by Dr. O'Connor in his *Rerum Heb. Script.*, where is an imperfect description of the MS. in a communication of Mr. Watkin Wynne for the papers of Humphrey Lluyd (Vol. I. Epist. Nuncup.). This is probably the oldest MS. of the Vulgate (containing the Catholic Epistles) in existence, even if we should not admit, with Sir W. Betham, that it is in the handwriting of Aidus, Bishop of Sletz, who died in 660. I do not know whether you are aware that both Dr. Todd and Mr. Petre maintain that the copy (MS.) recently discovered in the Domnpach was St. Patrick's own copy of the Gospels. However, when Scholz's Greek Testament came out in 1836, the poor Bishop of Salisbury, Burgess, who had contributed largely to the publication (in the expectation, no doubt, that it would contain his favorite passage), wrote his last pamphlet, in reply to Scholz's *diatribe*; but only survived the publication three weeks, &c. &c."

14th. A visit long promised from Tom Hume and his clever, warm-hearted wife. My poor Bess so ill from cramp and general weakness, that it was no small effort to her to receive them.

June 3rd. Went to the British Museum. The only object I hoped to be able to manage being some references to the MS. of Rinuccini's Memoirs, which Panizzi showed me when I was last in town, and which I understood he intended at some time or other to publish. To my great joy, it appeared that he had been anticipated in this object, and that it was possible I might find a copy of the work at Rolandi's, the foreign bookseller. So off I set thither, and found that of the few copies they had imported only one remained to them. This I was most glad to purchase of them for 10s. 6d.; and thus, instead of poking over the old Nunzio at the Museum, was able to carry him off with me, body and bones, to Sloperton. I forgot to mention that on Sunday last (the 2nd) I went to Hanwell to pay the first visit I have paid there for many years. Most kindly and hospitably received by my old friend the host, and his handsome wife. On my way to the station, I had called on Sydney Smith, and found him at home, confined by gout. Was not a little amused as well as surprised to find him industriously employed in teaching himself French. There was his copy-book lying open upon the table at the place where I took my seat, with all the verbs and their moods and tenses, &c., written out as neatly by his own hand as any young boarding-school Miss could have done it. What an odd pastime for such a man, and how he would have laughed at any other septuagenarian so employed! I have since recollected that one day, at Bowood, he began *à propos* to nothing, to speak French in the middle of dinner, and went on with some common-place sentences in that language, looking much pleased while so doing. This was now explained to me; he was then practising his school lessons upon us. Dined with Lady Holland; a very dull dinner. Forgot to mention I found another subject of Sydney's late studies was the large octavo edition of my poetical works; and he was pleased to say that what surprised him most in them was their "variety and fecundity."

6th. A letter from Bessy to say she had been left quite alone, and hoped I would return without delay. Went to the Boysses, who, I knew, would be disconcerted at this news, as Boyse and I were to dine to-day at Lord Fortescue's. But knowing how Bessy

suffers from nervousness when left without any companion, I resolved to be off to her. The Boyeses full of regret at my going. Called upon the Lansdownes, with whom I was to have dined the day after to-morrow, and started by the two o'clock train.

13th, 14th. The Rev. Mr. Pulling, of Cambridge, whose sonnets I lauded some time since, and who, to judge from the extent of the praise he has received, must have been very successful in his sonneteering, has just sent me one on myself, which at a hazard (for I have not yet read a word of it) I will transcribe here:—

"Unto thee, Moore, I will a lay devote,
And would with liquid beauty it might be
Fraught like thine own; then melting melody
Thereto would give a charm and magic note.
While thee I think upon, in air I float——"

There I was about to leave him, but the remainder is worth going on with:—

"At the command of fancy and of glee
And reach a garden full of fragrancy,
Where Philomel I hear with warbling throat.
Vainly I toil to match thee in thy grace,
Thou lauded poet, wholly void of peer,
Who always wilt adore thy natal place;
Erin will ever hold thy memory dear,
And fondly on thy honoured tomb will traue
(Oh be that day remote) 'Give Moore a tear.'"

July 1st to 3d. The Irish Society, I see, has at last succeeded in getting afloat. There has been a dinner, with Lord Clanricarde in the chair; and Dr. Croly has made a speech, in which, after eulogising many of the statesmen, writers, &c., of Ireland, he thus glorifies my small self.

"Your Lordship, in alluding to our literature, gave an honourable tribute to the poets of Ireland. Who can forget that we have among her living writers the most delicious poet in the world? (cheers.) The national melodies (to make no reference to the other works of Moore), will be a lasting testimonial to his most successful ability. What Milton has told us of the marriage of 'music to immortal verse,' has been realised by this distinguished writer, but with a still more legitimate and more charming connection—his is immortal verse 'married to immortal music,' and that golden band will never be dissolved" (cheers).

5th to 7th. I have not mentioned my having been summoned to town for the melancholy purpose of attending as one of

the mourners at poor Campbell's funeral. Besides the painfulness of the task, it would have been very embarrassing to me in many ways, and I felt compelled to decline it. Poor Campbell! if I was to outlive both our span of years I could never forget the manfulness of the atonement he made to me for the rash letter published by him on the Byron affair. "I ask you to forgive me," were the closing words of his frank *amende*.

16th to 18th. I am getting into great repute, I see, with the Anti-Corn-Law Leaguers. At one of their great evening festivals, some time since, there was a series of illuminated scrolls exhibited with the names thereon of the great champions of their cause, and there I was, in full blaze, by the side of Ebenezer Elliot, who, it seems, is the other great Laureate of the League. Some short time since, too, Dr. Bowring, who is also one of their *Dii Majores*, read in his speech, at one of their meetings, the whole of my long squib about the Owlyhean Lords.

"Who of all afflictions, ills and vices,
Thought none so dreadful as low prices.
Wherefore they held it just and meet
That the world should not too cheaply eat;
Nay, deemed it radical insolence
To wish to dine at small expence,
And swore for the sake of themselves and heirs,
That, happen what might, with other wares,
No bread should be less dear than theirs," &c. &c.

September 10th, 11th. In Lord Denman's late memorable speech on the Irish State Trials, the following sentence amused me not a little. "There was a great deal," he said, "of law taken for granted, which when it came to be examined, was found to be no law at all." Alas, the same is, I fear, the case with philosophy, and many other grave and grand things of this world.

"There was a Spanish doctor, who had a fancy that Spanish, Italian, and French were spoken in Paradise: that God Almighty commanded in Spanish, the Tempter persuaded in Italian, and Adam begged pardon in French."

The scrap here extracted, I found in an old book, at Hobhouse's, the other day. Lord Marcus pointed it out to me, and I thought it worth preserving.

21st, 22nd. Here is an anecdote of William Spencer's which has just occurred to me. The dramatis personæ were Lady Elizabeth Foster, Gibbon the historian, and an eminent

French physician, whose name I forget; the historian and doctor being rivals in courting the lady's favour. Impatient at Gibbon's occupying so much of her attention by his conversation, the doctor said crossly to him, "*Quand mi lady Elizabeth Foster sera malade de vos fadaïses, je la guérirai.*" On which Gibbon, drawing himself up grandly, and looking disdainfully at the physician, replied, "*Quand mi lady Elizabeth Foster sera morte de vos rêçettes, je l'im-mor-tali-serai.*" The pompous lengthening of the last word, while at the same time a long sustained pinch of snuff was taken by the historian, brought, as mimicked by Spencer, the whole scene most lively before one's eyes.

October 5th to 8th. The Bowood family arrived, and almost at the same time a kind note from Lady Lansdowne, asking Bessy and me to come and dine there on Monday. So the winter campaign there has opened, and how I am to fight off these kind and agreeable attacks I know not. In my answer declining Monday's dinner, I depicted somewhat more strongly than I intended, or perhaps ought, the situation in which I am placed between printers' devils assailing me from without, and the cares and wants of home staring upon me from within. Am sorry I let that word "wants" escape me.

November 8th to 10th. My poor Journal fares but badly in the total absorption of all my time which this weary History demands. I often think of an old Scotch song which I used to sing as a boy, and to which, indeed, I wrote words, which are, I believe, printed, beginning, "The wreath you wove." The subject of the original words is an old woman employed on a long, weary task of spinning (or weaving) a pound of tow, and the burden of every verse is, "The pund o' tow, the pund o' tow, the weary pund o' tow." Much the same feeling as the old woman's is that which I experience in returning day after day to the same endless theme.

11th to 13th. Three or four weeks of respite from company, which I have turned to account as well as I could; but what with time's *speed* and my own *slowness*, little is done.

December 5th to 8th. A most friendly letter from Lord John, saying how long it had been since he heard anything about me and Mrs. Moore, and asking me to write to him.

In my answer, said I agreed with him that friends ought not to go on thus, trusting to each other's remembrance, without now and then a word or two to refresh the recollection. It was all very well to say of *lovers*, " *Ils ne se verront plus, ils s'aimeront toujours,*" but *friends* require a little poking of the fire now and then, to keep it alive.

9th to 11th. Having let a long time elapse since Rogers's misfortune (the robbery of his banks) without writing to him even a line, I feared he might think it unkind, though delicacy was in a great degree my motive, and I accordingly wrote to him one of these days, or rather nearly a month since. I do not remember exactly what I said, but I know I alluded to the ill-luck that seemed almost invariably to attend poets in all connected with money; even in his case, where by a rare aliteration, wealth and wit, money and the muse, were found together, this fatality of poets seemed resolved to assert its rights, and to show that the two gifts were incompatible; that

"Where such fairies once have danced
No grass shall ever grow."

"But this," I continued, "will not be the case with you, my dear friend; your grass will, I trust, still grow, and your fairies dance for many and many a year."

12th to 14th. Some really *friendly* friend of mine, and one knowing a good deal of the matter, has published the following statement in reference to the stupid paragraph about me. I cannot conceive who it can be; but he has made himself accurately acquainted with the transaction.

"Anecdote of the poet Moore. We find the subjoined statement in several of the papers, but without the original authority being quoted:—

"The following anecdote is related of the poet Moore; there is an excellent moral in it:—Moore had just returned from his Government office in the West Indies, a defaulter for 8000*l*. Great sympathy was felt for him among his friends, and three propositions were made to cancel the debt. Lord Lansdowne offered simply to pay it. Longman and Murray offered to advance it on his future works, and the noblemen at White's offered the sum to him in subscription. This was at a time when subscriptions were on foot for getting

Sheridan out of his troubles; and while Moore was considering the three propositions just named, he chanced to be walking down St. James's street, with two noblemen, when they met Sheridan. Sheridan bowed to them with a familiar "How are you?" "Damn the fellow," said one of the noblemen, "he might have touched his hat. I subscribed a hundred pounds for him last night. "Thank God, you dare make no such criticism on a bow from me," said Moore to himself. The lesson sunk deep. He rejected all the offers made to relieve him; and to Passy, and lived in complete obscurity in that little suburb of Paris, till he had written himself out of debt. Under the spur of that chosen remark were written some of the works by which Moore will be best known to posterity.

"The 'excellent moral' in this case is never to believe such silly improbable gossip. We have counted five positive untruths in this paragraph. No English nobleman who had subscribed to relieve Sheridan from his necessities would behave in the vulgar *parvenu* manner here described. This one circumstance taints the whole statement, but it is manifestly and historically untrue. Mr. Moore never had a Government office in the West Indies. He was, however, in 1803, appointed Registrar to the Admiralty in Bermuda. He visited the islands the same year, but returned in 1804, leaving a deputy to discharge the duties of his office. The deputy, according to the general practice, was guilty of embezzlement, and the absentee poet was made liable in claims that were ultimately fixed at a thousand guineas, towards which an uncle of the deputy, a London merchant, contributed 300*l*. The first trace we have of the poet's misfortune is in 1818—fourteen years after he had returned from Bermuda, and two years after Sheridan had cancelled all his earthly debts by death! The memory of "poor Sherry" may, therefore, be relieved from the ignominy of a too familiar bow! Mr. Murray was not Mr. Moore's publisher, and was not consulted at the time in question; nor did the poet produce his best works in France; his 'Irish Melodies' and 'Lalla Rookh' (on which his fame must ultimately rest) were written in England. It is true that at the period of his difficulties, Mr. Moore retired to France, and declined all offers of assistance from his

friends, among whom were the Marquis of Lansdowne and Lord John Russell. He reckoned himself from his embarrassments in less than three years; adding one more example to those which should serve as beacons to young authors, in which we find, crowned with brilliant success, the union of high talents and genius with honest industry, and manly independence of character."

1845.

JANUARY 1st to 3rd. A most unexpected and welcome Godsend for our poor Tom, one of these days; no less than 95*l*. announced in a letter from Lord Fitzroy Somerset; being the sum deducted from the price of Tom's commission to pay the passage of his successor to India. But the East India Company having given his successor a free passage, this sum has been put to Tom's credit at Cox and Greenwood's. Wrote instantly, of course, to tell him this good news, and suppose before long we shall see him here.

The following verses appeared a few days since in the "Chronicle," and are from the pen (if I recollect her initials rightly) of my clever friend, Miss Costello.

TO THE POET.

"They are gone to the skies, they abandon the earth;
To the seraphs, their kindred, our minstrels are flown,
And have left to the land, that is proud of their birth,
One ray of their brightness—one Poet alone.

"There are many whose numbers are graceful and fair,
Whose thoughts are harmonious, whose melodies please;
And some, as they listen, can idly compare
With the jewels of old simple sparkles like these.

"But let the great Master once waken the lay,
Once rouse from the sleep that has held him too long,
And as from the sun burst the clouds troop away,
They shall all be o'erwhelm'd in his torrent of song.

"One lay of his country, all passion and tears,
One wail of her grief, or despair, or disdain,
Is worth all the efforts—the study—of years—
Oh! when shall we hear them and hail him again?

"Bid the minstrel awaken, and charm us, as when
We knew from his verse what the spells were of yore;
The harp is his book, and its chords are his pen—
What darkness enshrouds thee?—return to us, Moore.
"L. S. C."

Lady Elizabeth Fielding, in sending me these verses, which she had cut out of the newspaper, says, "See how the public call upon you, and you go on treating them with silent contempt. Shame, shame!"

Copy of a note from Mrs. Sydney Smith* to Longman, July 7th, 1845. in reference to a letter I had written to him, expressing my fears that we should not be able to raise such a monument to Sydney as would be worthy of the man and his fame. This Longman sent to Mrs. Smith, and the following was her answer:—

"My dear Sir,—I honour Mr. Moore more than I can express for the contents of this note. That he should think more of the fame of his lamented friend, and make his own advantage a secondary and subordinate consideration, shows him to be indeed worthy of the distinction conferred on him by the genuine regard and affection of one of the best of men. He alone must decide whether our materials be of such a kind as will justify his perseverance," &c., &c.

The following epigram, which has just fallen into my hands, must have been written as far back as the project set on foot for making me member for Limerick:—

"When Limerick, in idle whim
Moore as her member lately courted,
'The boys' for form's sake, ask'd of him
To state what party he supported.
"When thus his answer promptly ran,
(Now give the wit his meed of glory)
'I'm of no party, as a man,—
But, as a poet, am-a-tory.'"

From verses sent me by one of my foreign correspondents:—

"Alma dal ciel divisa
Fugge invano alla sorte,
Va passeggiara in vita
Va prigioniera in morte.
Sempre sospira, e tene,
Finchè non torna al ciel:
Al ciel, dov' ella nacque,
Dov' ha l' eterno amore;
E dopo un lungo errore
Spera di ritornar."

Here is a good House of Commons' scene:

In the Irish House of Commons one night, a blustering orator having triumphantly, as he thought, exclaimed, "I am the guardian of my own honour," Sir Boyle Roche quietly settled the orator by saying, "I wish the honourable gentleman joy on his sinecure appointment."

Here is another House of Commons' scene:

Government side: "Mr. Speaker, have we laws or have we *not* laws? If we *have* laws,

* Sydney Smith died in 1845. Mrs. Sydney Smith died in 1852.

to what purpose were those laws made unless they are *obeyed*?"

Opposition side: "Mr. Speaker, did that gentleman speak to the purpose or *not* to the purpose, and if he did *not* speak to the purpose, to what purpose did he speak?"

Not to forget Pakenham (the admiral) calling out after me one day in the Castle Yard, Dublin, when I was walking along with my old friend and bad brother-poet, Joe Atkinson, "Moore, take care you don't let that fellow write any of your verses for you."

When I was in Kerry with Lord Lansdowne he received a letter from one of his tenants there, in which was the following puzzling passage:—"As the Lord has given you power over every thing, I wish you'd tell the Mayor of Cork not to mix butther with his timber." The poor fellow *meant* to say that the mayor was not to mix timber with his butter, it being a trick with the butter vendors there, to increase thus fraudulently the weight of the casks or firkins in which the butter was packed.

One night when John Kemble was performing, at some country theatre, one of his most favourite parts, he was much interrupted, from time to time, by the squalling of a young child in one of the galleries. At length, angered by this rival performance, Kemble walked with solemn step to the front of the stage, and, addressing the audience in his most tragic tones, said, "Ladies and gentlemen, unless the play is stopped the child cannot possibly go on." The effect on the audience of this earnest interference in favour of the child may be easily conceived.

It was Judge Payne, I believe, who had a habit of saying, in his decisions, "As I humbly conceive it, look, do you see?" and, in allusion to this custom of his, somebody wrote the following:—

"The man who holds his lands by fee,
Need neither quake nor quaver;
For, as I humbly conceive it, look, do you see,
He holds his lands for ever."

I don't know where I found the following, but there is a homely sort of philosophy in it that rather takes my fancy:

"This world's a good world to live in,
To lend, and to spend, and to give in;
But to beg, or to borrow, or ask for one's own,
'Tis the very worst world that ever was known."

The death of his only remaining child, and his last and most beloved sister, deeply affected the health, crushed the spirits, and impaired the mind of Moore. An illness of an alarming nature shook his frame, and for a long time made him incapable of any exertion. When he recovered, he was a different man. His memory was perpetually at fault, and nothing seemed to rest upon his mind. He made engagements to dinners and parties but usually forgot half of them. When he did appear, his gay flow of spirits, happy application of humorous stories, and constant and congenial ease, were all wanting. The brilliant hues of his varied conversation had faded, and the strong powers of his intellect had manifestly sunk. There was something peculiarly sad in the change. It is not unusual to observe the faculties grow weaker with age; and in the retirement of a man's own home, there may be "no unpleasing melancholy" in the task of watching such a decline. But when in the midst of the gay and the convivial the wit appeared without his gaiety, and the guest without his conviviality—when the fine fancy appeared not so much sobered as saddened, it was a cheerless sight.

Happily for Moore and his partner, they had a certain income derived from the bounty of the Sovereign, which flowed on in a stream not exuberant indeed, but perpetual. On this income Mrs. Moore regulated her expenses, and regulated them so as to incur no debts.

The remainder of the Journal contains little that is of interest. Some extracts shall now be given, however, from the last MS. volume of Moore's "Diary."

From the commencement of the year 1845 down to the *present* date, August, 1846, I have "taken no note of time" as a journalist; misfortunes having befallen me during that interval which were quite painful enough to suffer without dwelling upon them constantly, and thus aggravating both our loss and our sorrows. But having now, thank God, a good deal surmounted these feelings, I shall here, with the aid of my dear wife's memory, detail the most prominent events, as well sunny as sorrowful, that have chequered this eventful period of our lives.

March. Received a letter from our son Tom,

saying that he was sick and tired of Africa, and expressing a strong wish to have interest made for him with the Russian general, Woronzow,* who had just then been appointed to a high command in the Russian army, and who, as Tom fondly hoped, might be induced to make him one of his secretaries. As Lady Pembroke, then in England, was sister to Prince Woronzow, it was thought by Tom that, if I would write to the Russian prince, and likewise apply personally to Lady Pembroke, there could be no doubt of the success of our suit. Tom, himself, had already written to Prince Woronzow, relying, as he said, poor fellow, on my reputation as a poet in Russia; and added, that if I would apply personally to Lady Pembroke, there would be no doubt, he thought, of the success of our suit. Though regarding the whole scheme as mere Quixotism, yet, to satisfy him, I despatched a letter on the same foolscap errand.

In the month of May this year (still 1845) I was called up to town. Found London in a state of bustle and excitement, which every one allowed to be unprecedented. The night before I arrived there had been a dreadful fire at an hotel not far from Boyse's, in which a poor woman was burned to death; and Lord H., who was staying there with his family, had narrowly escaped by a ladder from the window, holding his child, a young infant, in one hand. H. joined us after dinner, and gave us an account of the particulars of his escape. One frightful thing he mentioned was, that, when half-way down the ladder, he felt the strength of his arm failing him, and, for a moment, had the horrible thought that he must drop the child.

That night, or the next, there was a large ball at the Queen's, to which I was *not* invited, nor shall ever, I dare say, again, having lately declined two or three of her invitations; nor have ever, indeed, gone but to *one* of her assemblies, when I went with Lord Lansdowne. This time, however, I was sufficiently amused by going about to different houses, where I saw some very pretty specimens both of dress and beauty; but none that gave me such pleasure as our bright and smiling Lady Mount Edgecumbe. Next day

* Prince Woronzow, born at St. Petersburg in 1782. His father was for many years Russian Ambassador in this country, and died here.

I called upon Miss Coutts, whom I had seen in all her splendours the night before, and found her preparing to send it all back to the Bank. "Would you like," she asked, "to see it by daylight?" and, on my assenting, took me to a room up-stairs, where the treasure was deposited. Amongst it was the famous tiara of Marie Antoinette; and on my asking her what, altogether, might be the value of her dress last night, she answered, in her quiet way, "I think about a hundred thousand pounds."

Though I had delivered, as I hoped and thought, the last pages of my weary work (the History of Ireland) to the printer, there still remained enough of my task to worry and delay me; and, worst of all, was the supposed necessity of my prefixing some sort of Preface to the Volume. In vain did I try for two or three days to satisfy myself with a few prefatory sentences, but they would not come as I wished; and at last, in utter despair, I left to the Longmans to finish the abortive Preface.

As my *business* was now all finished, Mrs. Moore, who wished to obtain some advice respecting her eyes, from which she had a good deal suffered, joined me in town, where I had got apartments for a few days at Cox's, in Jermyn Street. On seeing her, Brodie pronounced that it was a physician she wanted, not an oculist; the eyes being sound, though now in an unhealthy state. We consulted, therefore, Dr. Holland, who asked us to breakfast with him for the purpose, and his opinion agreed very much with Brodie's. While thus the most eminent men of the profession were not only gratuitously, but promptly, at our service, nothing could exceed the kindness towards us of *all* our friends. Their carriages were daily at Bessy's disposal, and she drove out by turns with Lady Lansdowne, Rogers, Miss Boyse, Lady Elizabeth, and Mrs. Story,—all old and cordial friends.

On the 22d of July (still 1845), my dear sister Ellen paid us her accustomed visit, and remained with us, to our great pleasure, till the 22d of September. We then set out with her to see her part of the way; but, on arriving at Birmingham, found that we had left part of our luggage behind, and had a most wretched night to pass in that noisy town. We were so lucky, however, next day, as not

only to recover our luggage, but to find in the train Mr. Gould, a new American friend of mine, who was on his way to Liverpool, and who, taking charge of my dear Ellen, got her comfortably aboard the packet.

From thence we went to pay a visit to the Hughes's, near Wolverhampton—Mrs. Hughes being the niece of one of the best and dearest of our friends, the late Lady Donegal. The few days we passed with them were very interesting to us. Philippa Godfrey, who lives with them, reminded Bessy in many of her ways, and looks, both of Mary and Lady Donegal. Their vicarage is prettily situated; their children nice and playful; and altogether the few days we passed with them were very agreeable.

On our return home, we found a long melancholy letter from Africa, telling us that Tom was dangerously ill, and saying, that if he recovered from the fever, he must leave that country and return to his native air. It being late on Saturday night when we reached home, I could not, of course, get money till Monday; on which day I sent 30*l.* to Mostorganem, and in a few days after 100*l.* We were left in this state of anxiety for some time, and then heard from Tom himself. He was better, and full of joy at the idea of returning home after so many years of absence. Soon after, we heard again from him—still improving, but could not leave Africa before the spring, on account of a cough he complained of.

We heard no more for some time, and were kept in constant anxiety by the accounts in the newspapers. I myself, indeed, began to feel certain that we should never see him again. His poor mother tried not to agree with me, though her own feelings grew every day more sad and hopeless. In November, Mr. and Mrs. Hall came to us, for a few days, and we found them very agreeable as well as *clever* people—qualities not always found together. We asked to meet them our little friend Mary Hughes, of Buckhill, and they were greatly pleased with her.

December. Our old and kind friend, Hughes of Buckhill, getting worse—Lady Kerry (who has a house near him) coming over very often in her carriage to take Bessy to see him. Bessy, indeed, has been unremitting in her attentions to this old friend of ours, and on the 25th of this month, closed his eyes.

I still continue to take my Diary down from Bessy's dictation, and a mournful task it now begins to be, though (such is life!) the very first item I have now to enter is a gay ball at our neighbours the Schombergs', January first [1846], where I was one of the guests.

At the beginning of February, my sister, Ellen, mentioned in a note to Bessy that she was not well, and was going to Black Rock (near Dublin) for change of air, but would write again on Sunday, and tell us "how she was coming on, or going off;"—her own words. She mentioned also several concerts and other amusements she had in prospect. On Tuesday, no letter coming, Bessy expressed her fears that she must be worse; but I had no such apprehensions. On Wednesday, we were to have had some friends to dine with us—a rare occurrence with us now. Before I came down to breakfast, Bessy had received a few lines from my cousin Margaret, to say that Ellen was worse. This Bessy thought it best not to tell me, as I was feeling then very nervous, and she decided to let the dinner take place. So agitated was she herself during breakfast that she was obliged to leave the table; and on her saying, "I fear Ellen must be worse," I answered, "I assure you I think she will outlive us all." However, about eleven o'clock Susan Hughes, a kind friend of ours, called upon us; and on Bessy remarking that she looked pale and troubled, and asking anxiously what was the matter, Susan said, "Have you not heard, then, from Dublin?—is not Ellen ill?" Bessy looked up in her face, and seeing there the sad truth, said, "Then Ellen is dead?" "She is," was the sad answer.

The difficulty of telling me was so great, and the shock to Bessy herself so sudden, that when she came into my study some time elapsed before she could tell me the dreadful fact. At length she gradually brought it round, by saying that Ellen was very ill, and that Mrs. Meara had written to Susan to beg her to break to us the sad tidings in the best manner she could. Then came the awful truth, that my beloved sister was gone—gone, in a moment, while getting into bed,—or a few minutes after; for when the maid, who had just been with her, returned, all was over, and apparently without any suffering. * *

It was on the 17th of February we heard of this dreadful loss, and at a moment, too, when we were full of fear and anxiety about Tom, not having heard from him since the letter he wrote in November. We had feared, indeed, to tell him of our loss, for he dearly loved his aunt; and at the time he was quartered in Dublin, she had done all in her power to make his stay there happy and comfortable—often, indeed, to her own inconvenience and expense. She was herself of so youthful and cheerful a disposition, that it made her happy to see all around her so; and she and Tom loved each other most cordially.

About the middle of March, we received a strange and ominous-looking letter, which we opened with trembling hands, and it told us that my son Tom was dead! The shock was at first almost too much to bear; but, on reading the letter again, we saw reason to doubt the account it contained, and sent immediately to London and Paris to know if there was any truth in the rumour. It was, alas! but too true. The last of our five children is now gone, and we are left desolate and alone. Not a single relative have I now left in the world!

The last letter we received from the poor fellow is now before me, and I shall give a few extracts from it here. He was lying at the time when he wrote it in the hospital of Mostorganem; and in describing some part of the duty in which he had been engaged, he says, "You can easily conceive that exposing myself constantly through that period to the night air and penetrating dew was very unfit for one already so much weakened by illness. During a long time, indeed, I slept on the stones of the Court Gateway, where there was only a cheval-de-frise, as I had the command of the guard; and the Arabs continually fired through the gateway on our sentries. During all this time, I had violent cold 'night-sweats,' which ended by bringing on a cough that eventually fell upon the chest; and it now appears that those doctors did not perfectly understand my complaint." His heart and hopes being then set on returning home, he thus calculates his means for effecting this object:—"The Government stops fifty francs a month for the expenses. This leaves sufficient of my pay for the daily necessities; so that after having drawn what is necessary to pay my

debts (from the sum you so kindly sent me), I trust I shall be able to save the remainder intact until my departure for Paris, from whence, when fully restored to health, I shall be able to reach Sloperston." Poor fellow ! home and its comforts, and his "excellent mother" were in his thoughts to the last. The state to which he was reduced when he wrote this letter is thus described by himself:—"You would really laugh to see me; I am only skin and bone, and might be easily mistaken for Don Quixote's eldest son."

I will only add to this extract from my son's letter what Sir John Macdonald, who was always very kind to him, said, in speaking of him, one day lately when I called at the Horse Guards:—"I cannot tell you how much I was struck at the manly and cheerful spirit with which your poor boy made up his mind to encounter the horrors which he knew awaited him at Algiers."

About the middle of May, this year (still 1846) I went up to town, partly to hasten the last lingering sheets of my weary history, and principally to seek in the distractions of London some relief from the sad thoughts with which I have lately been too conversant. As my notes to Mrs. Moore, while away from her, have for a long while formed my only diary, I shall here content myself with such memoranda from her letters as may keep together the links of my daily doings.

My usual good fortune in travelling attended me in the present instance; for I met at the station Lady Mount-Edgecumbe, her charming children, and her lord's nieces, and we all got on together most socially through our journey. My first dinner, if I recollect right, was at Lord Lansdowne's; the next with Mr. Grenville, where the only man I met who deserves recording was Panizzi.

Called on Lady Mount-Edgecumbe, and sat some time with her. She now occupies the house in Sackville street, and in showing me the old room where I so often slept, told me it should still be at my service, in the old way, when Talbot was not in town.

Though I had written to Bessy so sanguinely respecting my task, there was still a short preface to be despatched which I had not taken into account. Alas, I *ought* to have known better the provoking restiveness of my pen. Nimble as I can deal with *thoughts*, and

rapidly as they present themselves to me, yet, until I can clothe them in *words* which satisfy me, I seldom can budge a single step. And such was the case with this abortive preface, which, after labouring at it, I will not say how long, I left to my brethren of the Row to complete as best they could.

In reporting to Bessy the close at last of my dull drudgery, I find I gave way to the following blue-devilish strain:—"Thank God I feel *now* as if I should survive this dreary task. But often, while employed upon it, I have felt a sort of presentiment that both the work and its weary writer would fall into oblivion together." In a postscript to this same letter I tell her "I am going to-day to dine with Lord Auckland," an announcement which I know will give her a melancholy pleasure; as his kindness to our poor Russell in India is never forgotten by her.

Dined with Lord Granville (whom I like much), and met here Lord Bessborough, and likewise the Clanricardes.

Before I came up to town I had seen "Lalla Rookh" announced in the newspapers as about to come out at the Opera House, in the form of a *divertissement*, and the appearance thus together before the public of two such different works of mine as my light "Lalla" and my heavy "History" amused me not a little.

I had exchanged also some letters with the opera people, and when I came up to town was introduced to Mr. Lumley (the new lessee of the Opera House), who very courteously asked me to dine with him, and offered me a seat in his box to see the first night of the ballet; adding that the Duke of Leinster was one of the persons I should meet at dinner. All this I should have liked very much, but as my friend Boyse's house had got into other hands, and I was there only on sufferance, I thought such an effort to prolong my stay would hardly be worth while, and therefore resolved to remain satisfied with the engagements I had already formed. One of these, however, having been suddenly postponed, I was thrown dinnerless on the wide world, and in this forlorn condition was walking past Lansdowne House about seven o'clock in the evening, when my good genius prompted me to ask of the porter "if my lord or lady were at home." Both were at home and visible; and I had hardly time to make my salutation to them, when

Lord L. exclaimed, "Oh, Moore, are you by any good chance disengaged, and will you dine with us to-day?" "That I will," said I, "most gladly," and then told him the dreary fate from which he thus rescued me. I found, too, that my good fortune was even more signal than I at first thought, as the company I met at dinner was composed of such an assemblage of authors, actors, connoisseurs, and artists as only an Amphytrion like our noble host could have managed to bring together.

The following was in contradiction of a paragraph which had lately appeared in the newspapers, representing me to be so dangerously ill that my life was despaired of. I give but two of the paragraphs which I have seen on the subject.

"THOMAS MOORE.—Those persons in Dublin in most communication with the family of Mr. Moore, contradict emphatically a report concerning that gentleman's health, put forward in a very absurd paragraph that lately went the round of the papers. The letters of Mr. Moore himself to his old friends have been such as they were for the last forty years."—*Pilot*.

"THE POET MOORE.—The 'Courier Français' announces the alarming indisposition of the poet Moore, in the following terms:—'The brilliant composer of "Lalla Rookh," the poet of the "Irish Melodies," the friend of Lord Byron, Thomas Moore, is at this moment expiring.' A paragraph stating the serious and alarming illness of the illustrious poet appeared some weeks since in an Irish provincial journal, which probably was the foundation for the announcement in the 'Courier Français.' We are most happy to have it in our power to give the most unqualified contradiction to all such statements. Thomas Moore is in excellent health. We have been favoured with the following extract of a letter, received in Dublin yesterday, from a friend and neighbour of the poet:—'In reply to your inquiry respecting the foolish paragraph that has been taking the round of the papers, I have the happiness to tell you that it is totally unfounded. Our gifted friend is, thank God, in excellent health and spirits. He has just come over here from his annual visit to the Marquis of Lansdowne, at Bowood, and is about to return to that seat

of princely hospitality."—*Dublin Evening Post* of Tuesday night.

This is not the first time I have been killed by the newspapers. They disposed of me in the same manner when I was in America, and I remember the Prince one night, when I met him on the stairs of the Opera, alluded graciously to this report, and added, "I assure you it was a matter of general concern."

On looking back to this visit of mine to town, I find I have omitted to mention an incident, half painful, half gratifying, which occurred while I was there. One day, as I sat at my task in Albemarle Street, a visitor was announced to me who turned out to be my old friend Kenny* (the dramatist), and the purport of his visit, poor fellow, was to ask my aid and interest in procuring for him a grant of money from the Literary Fund. Though long aware of his difficulties, I was in hopes he had surmounted them. The sum he now asked for was a hundred pounds; but the Fund pleaded the low state of their means at that moment, and gave him but eighty pounds. This was, however, most welcome to the poor dramatist.

I now, for almost the first time in my life, found myself an idle gentleman, and how far the change is likely to agree with me, mentally and corporeally, is a query that time alone can answer. As Christmas came near, the rumours of expected guests began to reach us from Bowood; but as Lord Lansdowne was then very frequently called to town by business, the visitors there were as yet few and fleeting. One of these birds of passage was Lord de Mauley, who walked over to Sloperton to see me, and remained some time. But the most agreeable altogether, of all the *rêlaches* I had at this time was during one of Lord Lansdowne's visits to town, when Lady L. being quite alone, asked Bessy and me over to La-cock to meet Mrs. Talbot and her charming children. It was then about the middle of November, and we staid there five or six days: the Lansdownes' carriage taking us there and bringing us back.

As this was my first visit to the Bowood

* Kenny's most successful farces were, "Raising the Wind," "Sweethearts and Wives," "Love, Law, and Physic," and "False Alarms." He was highly agreeable as a man, besides being humorous as an author. He died in 1849.

Library since I had got rid of my dull Irish *corrée*, I felt for some days a refreshing variety,—a sort of zest in reading other men's books, which could only, I think, have been given to them by the long and dullifying dose I had had of my own : so enlivening, indeed, was this new course of study to me,—and the newer and lighter it was the better,—that, for some days, like Shakspeare's "chartered libertine," I roved, unsated, from shelf to shelf.

As we got deeper into Christmas, the plot began to thicken, and we had in succession at Bowood the Stratford Cannings, Hallam, Luttrell, Panizzi, the Howards, Lady Kerry and spouse, Lord Carew, Senior, and Lord and Lady Holland. Lord Grey, who had taken his departure before I came, I was very sorry to lose ; for, though knowing but little of himself, with his truly noble father I was well and long acquainted.

Among those of the guests whom I was most glad to meet, were Lord and Lady Holland* ; this being the first time of my ever seeing *her* ; and, so far as kindness went, I found them *both* worthy of the old *House* ; the lady being a nice person, and, in her proffers of hospitality to me, even more earnest and cordial than her lord. "Mind," she said, "whenever you come to town, you must fix your home at Holland House."

I have omitted, I find, to mention a short excursion which I took in the autumn of 1846, for the purpose principally of getting some advice respecting the state of my eyes ; and as I had found, when in town with Mrs. Moore, that Brodie was the man *first* consulted, in eye cases (as well as in most other cases), I resolved to run up to town to consult him ; and a near neighbour of mine, a clergyman, Mr. Brown, who wished also to consult the great surgeon, respecting a child of his which had some ailment in the leg—we went up for our several purposes together. It was then the dead time of the year when Brodie, like other professional men, retires to his country seat, and only comes up on certain days to meet the multitude of patients that then assemble.

Through my interest with Sir Benjamin, the little squaller from Wiltshire took precedence of all the adult patients ; so that my

friend the parson was thus enabled to reach his home the following day.

As Brodie had kindly stipulated (as a condition of his prescribing for me) that I should pass a few days with him at his seat in Surrey, I accepted readily his terms, and accompanied him thither. Our company, the first day, was only his own family ; but on the second we had a large party of neighbours to dinner, not one of whom I was at all acquainted with.

In the morning I had walked with my host for some time about his grounds, and was much struck by his saying, in the course of our conversation, that among the many dying patients he had attended, he had but rarely met with one that was afraid to die. Let us hope that this picture of death-beds, drawn as it is by one who had often studied them, is as true as it is consolatory and even cheering.

Among those neighbours and occasional visitors that form our small society here, I have not yet, I think, mentioned an American gentleman, Mr. Robert Howe Gould, who made his appearance among us, for the first time, a few years since, as a lecturer on American poetry, in the Town Hall of Devizes. With this gentleman I have now the pleasure of being well acquainted, and to his pen am indebted for one of the most eloquent, as well as most gratifying, tributes that, either in the *Old* or the *New World*, has ever rewarded my humble labours.

Prefixed to the verses which Mr. Gould sent me was the following letter from him :—

SIR,—Retaining a vivid recollection of the courtesy which you accorded to me last winter, and of the pleasure which I received from my brief association with you, I have sought the opportunity of which I now avail myself to solicit your acceptance of a curious (and now somewhat rare) record of the peculiar greatness of Washington. Of his principles and his actions you, Sir, must, I feel assured, entertain a high and thorough appreciation ; and I, therefore, venture to hope that, if this little volume has not before met your eye, it may prove acceptable to you.

"This is my excuse for laying it before you ; but I fear that I can neither find nor invent an apology one half so valid for my presumption in prefixing to it an inscription *IN VERSE*.

* Henry, third Lord Holland, married Lady Augusta Coventry.

I can only say, in my own defence, that I am far from imagining myself to possess any real poetic talent, and that I have prefixed a few lines to this volume merely as an unassuming expression of the grounds upon which I have based my belief that the offering might interest you.

"Still it *is* presumptuous to address in verse a Master of the Art; but I am sure that no one more readily than yourself will admit that certain classes of ideas find more appropriate and fluent utterance in that form than in any other.

"The position which the public voice and the public feeling have so long accorded to you will redeem from the suspicion of insincerity the expression of profound admiration and respect with which I esteem it an honour to subscribe myself, dear Sir, your very faithful servant,

"ROBT. HOWE GOULD.

"London, June 28, 1845."

MR. GOULD'S VERSES.

"The foremost Patriot of all time
Must hold high place in His regards,
The power and fervour of whose lays
Have stamped him first of Patriot Bards.

"The Bard and Soldier share the praise
Of equal patriotic fire;
To Freedom one devotes his sword,—
The other consecrates his lyre.

"The poet prompts the noble deeds
The warrior's sword achieves;
The soldier from the poet's lyre
His meed of fame receives.

"The bold assertion of the truth,
'The love of right, the scorn of wrong,'
Shine in the Western Chieftain's deeds,
As in the Island Poet's song.

"Kindred their souls,—each boldly stood
The champion of his native shore;
Fate handed Washington the sword,
And gave the impassioned lyre to Moore.

"On the high altar of the Muse,—
Where long his myrtle-branch hath hung;
I place these records of such deeds
As oft the patriot bard hath sung.

"Sacred to him is now the shrine,
On which I lay my offering down;
His genius will avail, to twine
The laurel with the myrtle crown."

ROBERT HOWE GOULD, of Connecticut.*

I had now for more than six months been

* Of the comparison kindly but rashly ventured in this Poem, all I shall say is, that to compare me with General Washington is like placing a mere pigmy beside a giant.

almost entirely a recluse. I therefore resolved to indulge myself with a short flight from home, and an incident which just then happened came aptly to my purpose. A very near neighbour of mine, the Rev. Mr. Brown, a great admirer, or rather idolater, of the poet Wordsworth, having heard that he had just arrived in Bath, and knowing that I was acquainted with him, intreated that I would allow him to accompany me thither, and make him proud and happy by presenting him to the poet.

I very readily agreed to his proposal, and the more so as, by having the use of his carriage, I should be saved the expense of a fly to Chippenham.

I had never, I think, seen Wordsworth but once, and that was at Rogers's, many years before; nor had I forgot that on that occasion he took great pains to impress upon us how mistaken were those who set much value upon continental fame;—the fact being, I believe, that of all us poets of the day, Wordsworth is the one least known to foreign nations.

1847.

My old quotation, "We take no note of time but by its loss," grows daily, alas! more applicable to me. Here have I arrived far into the year 1847, and during that time not a single line have I chronicled in this Journal. I must now, therefore, by as many *mems.* as I can conjure up, atone for these omissions. When I last had time "to prate about my whereabouts, I was doing the honours to Wordsworth at Bath. Finding that Lord Mount-Edgcumbe and his family were then there, I called upon them, and was most kindly asked by them to dine with them, Lord Mount-Edgcumbe himself being confined to his bed by dreadful gout. But in the evening he admitted me to his bed-chamber, and I was glad to hear next day that he was all the better for the few hours I passed with them. They wished me to stay over next day, when Lady Mount-Edgcumbe, who was engaged then at Windsor, would be returned; but having some notion then of extending my tour a little farther, I declined their kindness.

The flights from home which I have since indulged in must be briefly despatched. My first, which was somewhat more far-fetched,

I was tempted to by the same wish, namely, for a change of air and scene; I had also the allurements of being invited to the house of an old friend, James Corry*, by far the best of all our comic force in the famed Theatricals of Kilkenny. He has long located himself at Cheltenham, and now invited me to pass a week at his house. Both host and hostess were most kind and hospitable; and I had also the great pleasure of seeing and dining with very old friends of mine, the family of old Joe Atkinson of Dublin, whose voices and faces, but little altered, took me freshly back into old times.

About the beginning of July, 1847, I was seized with another rambling fit, and knowing that my friend Rogers was still at his post in town, I wrote to proffer him my company for a few days. In order to preserve the precious treasure of his autograph, I shall here transcribe the answer he sent me:—

“MY DEAR MOORE,—There is a small house in a dark and narrow corner of London (Memory Hall, as it was once called by a reckless wight, who has played many a freak there, and who now sleeps in Harrow churchyard), where you will be most welcome. So pray come and make it your home, and stay there as long as you can.

“To-morrow I leave it for three or four days, but I shall be there again on Tuesday, the 29th of June, and pray come as soon as you can. Whether I am returned or not,

* James Corry, born in Dublin in 1772, educated at Trinity College, and called to the bar in 1796, but did not follow the profession, having, on the death of his father, succeeded to the offices he held of Clerk of the Irish Journals in the House of Commons, and Secretary to the Linen Board. After the abolition of the Linen Board in 1810, Mr. Corry left Ireland, and resided in England up to the period of his death, which took place at Cheltenham, in January, 1843. Being without family, in easy circumstances, of a genial temperament, and gifted with wit and humour, he shared largely in the accomplishments and amusements which distinguished the best era of Irish society: a taste for the stage was among the most prominent of those amusements, and he was accordingly an active and successful member of the celebrated theatrical amateur company of Kilkenny, which included Moore. But Mr. Corry had other and higher qualifications; for he was a man of singular generosity, of enlarged views, of liberal opinions, and of a catholic philanthropy. He was the intimate friend of some of the most eminent men of his day—of Grattan, Langrishe, Bushe, and Plunkett; and to Moore, whom he had known from his childhood, he was especially endeared by the unremitting kindness which he displayed towards his family.

Mrs. Corry was the daughter of Thomas Sherrard, Esq.

you will be cordially and hospitably entertained. If somebody else comes with you I should be delighted. Pray persuade her. Yours ever,

“S. ROGERS.

June 24, 1847.”

During the week I passed with Rogers he did most kindly all in his power (and his power is an extensive one) to make the time agreeable to me; his carriage always at hand for my daily visits, and himself generally accompanying me, to suggest those I should call upon. One of the most interesting of these were the young people of Holland House, whom I grieved not to see more of during my stay. The all-charming Jenny Lind I neither heard nor even saw, though the lord of the Opera, Mr. Lumley, placed a box one night at my service. But the heat of the weather was most trying and sultry, and my round of gaieties had been too much for me. I was compensated, however, by two other Syrens, having heard Grisi in most charming force, and dined and lunched with my nice and long-known friend, Lady Essex. Among those whom I visited and sat some time with, was the Dowager Lady Grey, all agog, as she said, for Italy!

Talking of Italy, I have already, I think, mentioned the *éclat* with which an opera, founded upon “Lalla Rookh,” was brought out this year at the Queen’s Theatre; and the example was followed promptly by many of the minor theatres, as this fragment from one of the newspapers will show:—

May, 1847. “MR. JOHN PARRY’S CONCERT.—This entertainment attracted an overflowing audience, last night, to the Hanover Square Rooms. Of course the chief features in the programme were the new songs with which Mr. John Parry is accustomed to treat his patrons and the public annually. The subjects of the present effusion were ‘Lalla Rookh,’ and the ‘Rival Houses.’ The first, designated ‘a grand oriental overland transit buffo-romance,’ is a comical parody of the leading incidents in Moore’s poem, in which the author, Mr. Albert Smith, has introduced, with quaint humour, sundry allusions to Lieutenant Waghorn and his plans. The music is adopted from popular melodies. Madame de Lozano, a Spanish lady, who has

been compelled by adverse circumstances to become a professional singer, sang the 'Pensa alla patria,' from the 'Italian in Algieri,' very creditably, but it was scarcely judicious to choose that cavatina which Alboni has made her own. Mr. John Parry sang his two new songs by Albert Smith, 'Lalla Rookh' and the 'Rival Opera Houses,' with great spirit. Lindsay Sloper and Rouselot assisted in the scheme; but of the other artist we can report nothing favourable. Owing to the regulation prohibiting the artists of the two Italian opera houses from singing at concerts, the town is inundated with a set of continental mediocrities."

While nightly thus my muse inspires the songs of that great warbler Mr. Parry, I find Lord Ashley, at the Bath election, pilfering from me some of those old, defunct quotations of O'Connell's "First flower of the earth and first gem of the sea;" while, in another quarter, Lord George Bentinck thus with more novelty turns my muse to his purpose.

The whole passage, as I cut it from the newspaper, may, perhaps, be worth preserving:—

"For 300 years you endeavoured to put down the Roman Catholic religion in Ireland by persecution. Down to 1783 or 1784, Catholics could not hold land in Ireland. My grandfather, the Duke of Portland, was sent by the government of which Burke was a member to repeal those laws. Did Protestantism make progress in Ireland under the system of Persecution? The result was notoriously otherwise. Look where an opposite system prevails. In Canada, the Protestant and Catholic churches are established side by side, and there the number of the Protestants increases. A similar result is observable in India. Prussia furnishes a striking illustration of the wisdom of adopting a wise and just policy in this respect. At the conclusion of the last war, the King of Prussia, having obtained a large accession of territory, chiefly occupied by a Roman Catholic population, placed persons of that religion on an equality in every respect with those of the Protestant religion. At that time, the Catholics were in the proportion of five-eighths to the Protestants; now they have dwindled to three-eighths (Hear.) Common sense as well as experience show, that we have adopted an erroneous

mode of dealing with the religious convictions of the people of Ireland. (Hear, hear.) Cromwell tried the sword, made it penal, and, I believe, a capital offence, for a Roman Catholic or an Episcopalian to preach, baptize, christen, marry, or bury in public. But my religion is not of that kind described by Hudibras; I am not one of

"That stubborn crew
Who do build their faith upon
The holy text of pike and gun,
And prove their doctrines orthodox
By apostolic blows and knocks."

No; I rather concur in the beautiful sentiment expressed by the Irish poet:—

"Shall I ask the brave soldier who fights by my side
In the cause of mankind if our creeds do agree?
Shall I turn from the friend I have valued and tried,
If he kneel not before the same altar with me?"

"From the heretic girl of my heart shall I fly,
To seek somewhere else a more orthodox kiss;
No; perish the heart and the laws that would try
Truth, valour, and love by a standard like this!"

I am aware that much prejudice exists on account of a speech made by Lord Arundel and Surrey in the last Parliament."

Extract—I know not from whom or where. —"This idea—that of the Whig and Liberal party—has, we are convinced, far more moral power than any other in Ireland. This party alone in Ireland has a moral and historical existence. The mind of that country, as far as it has been developed, has affected such principles. All the brilliant reputations of Ireland, in the senate, literature, or at the bar, belong to moderate liberalism. Her most popular viceroys, her foremost statesman, Grattan; her best debater, Plunkett; the brightest spirit of the Irish bar, Curran, were all Whigs. Nor is that all. Her popular statesmen, with powers of public effect, may be claimed for the same party. Flood acted through life upon their principles. The leading minds of the Irish Catholic church, from Arthur O'Leary down to Archbishops Croly and Murray, have all been favourable to toleration and social progression, but averse from violent convulsion, or menacing schemes of politics. To most of Dr. Doyle's sentiments on Ireland an English Whig might cry 'ditto,' as the Bristol merchant said to Burke's speech at the hustings. The muses in Ireland have strung their lyres to the same tune.

The 'poet of all circles and the idol of his own' has through his manly life never written one line tinged with a sectarian or unsocial spirit. The ascendancy on the one side, or the Corn Exchange upon the other, supplied him with no inspiration; but true to the mind of his country and his own genius, he poured forth those strains which have been echoed by every class, and in every clime."

[I here conclude the extracts from the "Diary." The reader may have perceived in it traces both of confusion and loss of memory. For an instance of the first, I may mention the enjoyment he derived from ranging at

large over Bowood Library placed in connection with his visit to Lacock. And of the second, his forgetfulness of his meeting with Wordsworth at Paris, recorded in the second Volume.

There remains a collection of letters, from which, up to the year 1818, I have already published a selection. But having put these letters, and those which have been preserved of a later date, into the hands of a mutual friend, he has enabled me to add to the value of this volume by a large addition of correspondence. Among them will be found some from Mr. Rogers, who was kind enough himself to select those which he permits to be published.]

LETTERS.

To his Father.

"London, June 6, 1799.

"Dear Father,

"I am very much inclined to think that I shall see and embrace you this summer. The primary motive which induces me is indeed the melancholy idea of being separated so long from those I love, as I must be if I omit this opportunity; but there are other circumstances which incline me to return; and though they be not strong enough to render it *necessary*, they are enough so to obviate any objections to its *propriety*. The summer is not the period of the year for publication, and all therefore I could do during that time would be to prepare something for my *début* in winter. This I could do as well in Ireland as here; for as to the idea of turning a literary *hack*, I find it to be such a premature grave of talents, that, till absolute exigence demands, I will not have recourse to it. Then for my study of the law, I cannot procure books here; to purchase them were expensive, the public libraries are inconvenient and unsatisfactory, and I am not intimate enough with any legal men to apply to them for the loan of those books that I should find necessary: all this would be obviated at home. I have other reasons, important and otherwise, which altogether make me

very much disposed to returning. However, I submit it entirely to your wishes; and I pray you, do not think that my heart is *decidedly* set upon it, for I know that with such a persuasion, your indulgence would lead you to consent, in compliance more with my inclinations than your own judgment.

"I sat with Lady Flood to-day for near an hour. Miss Flood is going to be married to a man of very large fortune. Sir Fred. has just come from Ireland about it. I was delighted to hear him give such a comfortable account of the returning appearance of tranquillity in Ireland.

"You said in your last letter that my mother was *pretty well*: this qualified expression has made me apprehensive that she was not well. *Do* let me know particularly of *her* health and *your own*. Tell her with what delight I shall meet her, if it prove expedient that I shall return this summer, to enjoy that dear little family circle which absence has taught me to know the whole value of.

"Give my warmest love to my dear Catherine. Heaven bless my sweet girl, and make her understanding as progressive as her goodness! Tell little Ellen that '*Brother, Sir*' does not forget her, and remember me most affectionately to my uncle Joice. Is my aunt

recovering her health? Send her my loving remembrance; and, for you, my best of fathers, need I tell you with what true affection I am your ever grateful and loving son,

"T. MOORE.

"Thursday night.—Write to me immediately your determination. Mrs. M'Mahon will, I believe, travel with me."

To his Father.

"London, June 25, 1799.

"Dear Father,

"I am now determined upon going, and only wait for the decision of the bookseller, who has the manuscript of my little poems. If he gives me but as much as will bring me to Ireland, it will be pleasant; though I scarcely can expect more than a free publication, as poems are really, in the present taste of the age, a heavy article on the booksellers' hands. I am glad, however, to get rid of them if I can, on any terms. I will write again before I set off, and I hope to meet you all happy and in health. My last letter I suppose surprised, and, I hope, disappointed you; but you must always allow for the fluctuating oddity of my mind, which can never account for those melancholy little whims which it falls into. I have nothing particular to tell you.

"My love to my dear mother, and Catherine and Ellen; to my uncle Joice and aunt, &c.—The day after to-morrow I expect to set off.

"Yours, &c.,

"T. MOORE."

To ———,

"Wednesday, 1800.

"My darling Brother*,

"This has been a most delicious day, and I have been basking about the streets in great happiness; everything looked so new and so bright to me—the coaches all made of gold and the women of silver; besides, every one was so glad to see me, and I saw one poor man who had been as ill as myself, and we met like two newly-raised bodies on the day of resurrection,—so glad to see each other's bones with a little flesh on them again. I met Mr. Thompson, and he looked at me, but not taking me for myself, he passed on; indeed, he never saw me before without a flannel gown

* His uncle by the mother's side, whom he called by the name of brother.

and a sofa. Well, it is a most sweet thing to feel health returning, and if my side but keeps well, and the sun keeps shining, I have some very, very happy weeks before me. I am now in the 8th week of my illness, and this is the first day I have *walked* out, though I have been *twice* with Lady D. in the carriage. I hated coming back to my room and my sofa to-day, but as it was the first time, I could not venture to stay out.

"God bless all ours. Tell my dear *uncle* how stout I am getting, and give her dutiful nephew's love to my aunt.

"Your own

"TOM."

To his Mother.

"Donnington Park, Dec. 31, 1800 (at night).

"My dear Mother,

"This is from my bed-chamber at Donnington Park, where I arrived at two o'clock to-day, through snows mountain deep; the cross roads were impassable; so that I was obliged to take a round, which has made it a little expensive: but it can't be helped, it has not made much difference. Nothing can be more princely than the style of this place, nor anything more flatteringly polite than my reception here. Lady Charlotte told me she regretted very much that I was not here during the Prince's stay, and that she had written to her mother to beg of her to hurry me. The Prince, too, she told me, expressed a wish that I had met him. Dearest Mother! there is no fear of my not doing *everything*. Keep up your spirits, my little woman, and you'll find I'll make you as rich as a nabob. But I am now far away from you, and that is the only idea that can hang heavy on my mind; but, dear Mother, be happy and contented, and then you'll be everything to us. Your *excessive* solicitude for us is the *only thing* we can blame you for. I shall not stay here more than a day or two, certainly, for I find my portmanteau tormentingly troublesome. I dread the packing of it again; and I have to *root* into it for everything I want. Lord Moira has but this moment left me, after attending me very politely to show me my bed-room.

"Good bye.

"THOMAS MOORE.

"I believe I left my little brooch behind me. Take particular care of it, and send it or enclose it by the first opportunity. I may, perhaps, not be able to write again from this, on account of the uncertainty of their sending off a post-boy; but I shall write the moment I arrive in London. Send the enclosed letter under cover to 'Earl Granard, Castle Forbes, Longford.'"

From Miss Godfrey.

"Dec. 27, 1801.

"I have this moment received your letter, and *me voici la plume à la main pour y répondre*; not to tell you what we can make of you, for God only knows what you are good for, or whether you are good for anything, but to lament and groan over your restless disposition. Your talents might fit you for everything, and your idleness unfits you for anything. You want to come to town, I know you do, merely to get away from those country-bred, sentimental ladies, the Muses, and I pray that you may have no other ladies in view to supply their place. You really might, if you pleased, study all the morning, and amuse yourself all the evening. I entreat you to make an effort, and not devote every hour and moment of your existence to pleasure. You know my sermons make you laugh—*tant mieux*. I never despair of you when you laugh; if you yawned I should give up the thing as hopeless. Lady C. Rawdon has so often regretted, and I have so often forgiven her not writing, that I have not the least objection to our going on regretting and forgiving to the end of the chapter. Abstraction, self-contemplation, etiquette, and, God forgive me, I was going to say, *strict morality*, but I retract that, are not great enliveners of society, and I don't wonder at the Muses being a little discomposed by such an interruption. But who was the unfortunate fair one to whom those very pretty lines which you sent me were addressed? If Nature had been as kind to me as she has been to you, I would write you something upon the occasion; but Nature has treated me abominably ill, for which I shall never forgive her;—she has given me feelings to admire with enthusiasm the talents of others, and she has denied me even the faintest ray of genius. I never heard of the 'Seven Fountains' before. What sort of a

book is it—poetry or prose? If I should happen to read it, I suppose I must 'give God thanks, and make no boast of it.' The snow after which you inquire so kindly has departed this life, to my great joy. I never am in good will, either with myself or my fellow creatures, in cold weather: are you? I did intend writing to you to-morrow, for which I had a very wise reason best known to myself, but when I received your tragi-comic, or rather your more comic than tragic letter, I resolved to answer it immediately, to encourage you to remain at your post. Nothing ever was more disinterested than this advice, and I never shall cease to admire myself for giving it; for if I followed my own inclinations, which in general don't lead me astray like yours, I would say, 'Come up to town by all means, and the oftener we see you the better.' I consult your interest when I say the contrary. But yet if you do come, if the truth must come out, I shall most heartily rejoice to see you, and so shall we all. Say pretty things for me to Lady Charlotte about love and friendship, and writing to each other. I shall give you a *carte blanche* upon the occasion, for I suspect she does not care the least in the world for me—it is all stage trick and fine acting; this is quite *entre nous*. Remember me to Lord Forbes. God bless you and make a good man of you (I believe it is almost impossible).

"Yours very sincerely,

"M. GODFREY."

From M. G. Lewis, Esq.

"Dalkeith House, Nov. 19, 1802.

"My dear Moore,

"I have just received your letter, and all that I *can* do I *will* do; but I am afraid that will not advance your cause much, for instead of ranking among your '*great friends*,' I must submit to being classed among your '*little ones*' in every respect. In the first place, I am not conscious of possessing '*personal influence*' with any one person in the world, my sisters excepted.* * * If you hit upon any person to whom you think my applying would be of any use, let me know without scruple; and if I possibly can do the thing with the least propriety, I shall obey you with pleasure. For my own part, I know of nobody to whom my speaking would be of the least

effect. All my *great friends* are merely *liaisons de société*; and the few people who might possibly feel a pleasure in obliging me are all on the wrong side of the question. As to Ministers, I know none of the present; and, between ourselves, have not the least inclination to know them. Your request is couched in such very general terms, that it is impossible to make any particular application of them. If you were to pitch upon any individual object, perhaps I might be of more use to you. It is possible that, if you could find some trifling situation vacant in the India House, I might serve you more than elsewhere; but *you must find it*;—and so, assuring you that I shall always feel gratified by an opportunity afforded me of showing you my friendship, I shall lay aside this subject for the present.

“What the deuce became of you for the last fortnight which I past in London? Everybody was in pursuit of you, but no tidings could be obtained of your whereabouts for love or money. Count Beaujolois*, too, previous to his leaving London in the end of July, tired to ferret you out, but with no better success. My sister Sophia sent me word that all London was persuaded that *you* were the *Invisible Girl*, and I believe she conversed with that unseen fair-one in that character. I am sorry that you did not come to Scotland. I have been passing my time very pleasantly, though constantly on the move, never staying above a fortnight in the same place. I found Beaujolois at the Duke of Athol’s, whence we adjourned to Inverary; there William Lamb†, and Kinnaird, Lord Lorne‡, my sister, the Campbells, and numerous other people were assembled; and we contrived to keep up such a continual riot, that I changed the name of Inverary to that of *Confusion Castle*, with universal approbation. We had plays, music, billiards, gaming [but in moderation], with a thousand other nondescript amusements; among the most admired of which was a newspaper, giving an account of all the domestic affairs of Inverary, and in which we all abused one another; the want of your assistance in the poetical department was much lamented. From Inverary

Count Beaujolois and myself adjourned to the Duke of Hamilton’s, where we had a week’s racing and dancing. We there separated; he to pay his devoirs to Monsieur, and I to pay mine to Lady Charlotte Campbell at the villa, where she is now residing, and expects every day to be confined. I am now come for a couple of days to the Duke of Buccleuch’s; I mean to pass a couple more with Lady Charlotte, and then I shall set out for England; but as I have some visits to make upon the road, probably I shall not travel with much expedition. When shall you be in London? I have not read *Aristodemo*.* If it is worth reading, and your own property, bring it with you when you come to England. In spite of my dissipation since I came to Scotland, I have not been quite idle; for I have got through three tremendous volumes of Gibbon, and the whole of Voltaire’s *Universal History*; of all which I do not remember one syllable.

“Farewell, and believe me,

Yours, most truly,

“M. G. LEWIS.”

From M. G. Lewis, Esq.

“Inverary Castle, Nov. 9, 1803.

“My dear Moore,

“I was both very *sorry* and very *glad* to hear from my sister that you had got a situation in America; the *first* on thy own account, the second from my good will towards *you*. I understand that your situation is both respectable and emolumentary, and you know I thought it high time that your *grashoppering* system should be at an end, and that you should begin to collect a provision of corn against the winter; but at the same time, I cannot help being conscious that I shall miss your society very much, and feeling some little regret at your having been appointed to an employment which puts you out of my reach. While we were so completely within call of one another I told you that our corresponding would be unnecessary; but now that we are separated (and that probably for some time) it will give me real pleasure to get a line from you now and then, as it will at the same time give me the assurance of your welfare, and that you have not forgotten a friendship which, though it has not been of long duration, is by

* Brother to Louis Philippe.

† Afterwards Lord Melbourne.

‡ Afterwards Duke of Argyll.

* A tragedy of Monti. In the life prefixed to his works it is called “La sua prima e famosa tragedia l’*Aristodemo*.”

no means a cold one. If you comply with this request, direct to me in Devonshire Place; but this request is not the only one which I have to make; you promised to give me the proof-sheets of the printed half of your poetical romance, and (like too many other of your similar engagements) this promise has not been performed. From a message which you sent me by Mrs. Lushington, 'that you had left your book half published,' I indulge some faint hopes that you may have left it for me, and told Carpenter that I was to have a copy of as much as was printed; but these hopes are very faint, as I know that you never will be accused of having too much thought and recollection. On my return to London I shall inquire of Carpenter whether there is any foundation for the above supposition; but if you have said nothing to him on the subject, of course he will not deliver me the poems. Now, as I really am too anxious to see this book to wait with any sort of patience, till it shall suit your good pleasure to return from America and finish its publication, I must summon you to keep your promise, and write me a line without loss of time, authorising Carpenter to deliver me the said proof-sheets. If you wish it, you may depend on my not showing the book to any person; but at all events I insist upon your letting me have, with all convenient diligence, the dithyrambic story of Hebs's accident, as it has been running in my head ever since. If it is not yet printed, you *must*, absolutely and positively must, transcribe it for me with your own fair hand, and forward it to London. I have been at the Duke of Argyll's between two or three months; we have been tranquillity personified. Very few inmates, no visitors. Lady Charlotte was absent at Edinburgh, where her husband's regiment is quartered; Lord Lorne was very much occupied by his Lord-Lieutenancy; and Lord John * is but just arrived (having effected his escape from the horrors of a French prison by assuming the dress of a woman). Consequently, I have had my time almost entirely to myself, and have read most furiously; among other things I waded through the three last volumes of Gibbon, but with so much labour, that when I closed the book I said to myself, '*Jamque opus erigi!*' But among other things I have read

* Lord John Campbell, afterwards Duke of Argyll.

a book published by a young Scotchman on the subject of Colonial Policy*, which really made my blood run cold while I perused it, for it stated very clearly that the inevitable consequences of the independence of St. Domingo would be the ruin of the other West Indian colonies, and of Jamaica in the first place; in which case, *Morbleu!* I should be in a pretty pickle. The worst of it is, too, that I think the author is quite in the right, and begin to imagine what a mighty indifferent figure I shall cut with poverty on my right hand and the gout on my left; (for you are to know, that the latter gentleman (or lady, if you like it better) has lately paid me a sort of flying visit; and though he did not actually leave a card with his name upon it at my door, his hints were sufficiently broad to leave me no doubt that he means to be on a very intimate *footing* with me one of these days). However, to return to the West Indies; 'Sufficient to the day is the evil thereof,' and therefore I will still indulge the hope that *I* shall one day be as rich as I was born to be, and that *you* will one day return from America as rich as you deserve to be (for, as the Devil will have it, there is no going on without those same infernal riches), and then will we lead such a life as never entered into the fairest visions of Utopia. We will form a *cot rie*, which shall be the rallying point of beauty, genius, and worth. No flimsy wits, would-be fashionables, or ugly *M cenasesses* in gowns and petticoats; no Lady Cork's Welsh porters, or Harry Grevvilles; we will set up an *Academia* for the elegant pleasures and the graces of life; the circle of our Society shall be a sort of round-robin of poetry, painting, music, love, and philanthropy; till the angels shall come down from heaven, and beg Lady Charlotte Campbell to take them to sup with us. What do you think of the scheme? And yet, after all, it is both provoking and humiliating to think, that such a dirty thing as money must needs be the foundation-stone of so beautiful an edifice. I shall leave Inverary Castle on Sunday next, and proceed southwards; but as I have many visits to make on my road, I probably shall not reach London till near the conclusion of the year. However, *my* visits must depend entirely upon Buonaparte's; for if he comes to Scotland immediately (where he is very

* Lord Brougham's work on Colonial Policy?

soon expected, though not with absolute *impatience*), the roads about Edinburgh are to be broken up, and then I shall be obliged to return home by a different way; so that every night and morning (like the old woman who found a silver penny and bought a pig with it) I cry out to Boreas,—‘Pray, Boreas, sing French; French *will* invade Scotland; Scotland *will* break up roads; roads *won’t* let carriage pass; and I shan’t get home this year.’ Now, if you are so profoundly and unpardonably ignorant as to know nothing about the old woman and her pig, the whole merit of the above prayer will be lost upon you. We are mighty bold here about the Invasion, as far as regards *our* island; as to *yours*, as the man says in the Critic, ‘On that subject, the less that’s said the better.’ Frederick French writes me word, that the Irish peasants have been discovered in taking oaths *not* to serve in the army of reserve. News, from this isolated quarter of the globe, I can send you none at present; but if you will answer this soon, my London letters will probably be more interesting. Yet I will not be so humble, and, I *hope*, so unjust to *you*, as to suppose that you will think this letter totally *uninteresting*, since it contains the assurance of my being

“Yours very sincerely,
“M. G. LEWIS.”

From Mrs. Merry.

“Georgetown, near Washington, Sunday, 1804.

“Before this letter reaches you, you will have heard of our landing at Alexandria, after six days’ *disputation* with winds, tides, and ignorant navigators. The following morning we set off for this place in a coachie. The cold was very severe, and the roads intolerable; nevertheless, I laughed every step of the way. Mr. Thornton met us at Alexandria, and advised this mode of conveyance as the best both for ease and quickness. Mr. M. had never been in one of these vehicles, and his *quiet* astonishment and *inward groaning* gave rise to my mirth and risibility. On entering our apartments here, I asked the master of the house what he could give us for dinner. He immediately changed his *position*, walked to the fire-place, reclined his head on the chimney-piece, looked at me, or rather stared, and replied, ‘Why, Mistress Merry, our custom is to give the best we have, but I *keeps* no

schedule whatever. My house is full; but you shall have *yare* dinner.’ So we had, God knows! but neither his B. Majesty’s Minister or Mistress Merry could eat a morsel that was served. A few days will, I hope, place us in some hovel of our own. Mr. Thornton is indefatigable in his endeavours to procure us every comfort. He is a *quiet*, sensible, well-informed man, without brilliancy or eloquence. Well educated, and full of information, which he details slowly from a natural impediment in his speech. Upon the whole, he is a great acquisition, and I rejoice to hear he is not likely to leave us; but this *entre nous*—let not a word escape you that I write—trifles become *giants* in the mouths of Americans. We have alarmed the Congress itself with the number of our servants and the *immensity* of our baggage: the former they cannot account for; the latter, they have ingeniously settled, is to be sold, and that their *home markets* will be injured if foreign ministers are allowed to bring over such profusion of luxuries for sale. Do they deserve to have one of Dr. Parry’s Christians live amongst them?

“I rejoice you did not come with us. At this season the Potomac is a poor reward for the *innumerable* difficulties and impositions a traveller meets with. Its immensity inspires awe and surprise that almost deadens sense, and its sameness, for some hundreds of miles, is quite overpowering; to this add a total want of cultivation, without any diversity of ground, without an atom of sublimity or grandeur, or even cheerfulness. Within a hundred miles of Alexandria the scene changes for the better. You have well-clothed mountains and magnificent woods that may charm in their summer or autumnal dress, but in the month of November they show you the savage deserts, the miserable negroes’ huts, and the causes why this country is so devoted a victim to disease. At some moments I wish you were here. Matter arises every instant that you would convert into amusement, but the *per contra* makes us both bear the deprivation of your society with resignation, though not without regret. When we are comfortable come and see us. You have older friends, but none who value you more highly than Mr. M. and the writer of this blackened scrawl. I hope you are a good decipherer, or you will soon regret entering into a correspondence with me; I cannot write

well, nor read what I write. I should have told you the house you heard talked of for us is not to be had either for *love* or money. Mr. M. frets, and every moment *exclaims*, 'Why it is a thousand times worse than the worst parts of Spain!' I laugh, and resolve to bear up *stoutly* against difficulties while Heaven blesses me with health. I am now perfectly well, and to-morrow shall *exhibit* at the Capitol. The Capitol—good heavens, what profanation!! Here is a creek, too—a dirty arm of the river—which they have dignified by calling it the Tiber. What patience one need have with ignorance and self-conceit.

"Adieu! let me hear from you soon, and accept the sincere friendship of

"E. MERRY."

From Lady Donegal.

Monday, 1505.

"I should have long since contributed my mite towards disturbing your repose at Donington, but that the *cares* and *distractions* of this world leave me but little time for the pleasures of it. However, as this word *pleasure* admits of different definitions, perhaps in your dictionary it is explained by 'great dinners—crowded assemblies—long list of visits to people you don't care about—seldom seeing those you do—never having an hour to yourself—and living in a constant bustle all day long.' Now, if this is your definition of pleasure, what a happy woman you must think me! for it is the exact description of the life I have led ever since you left us. But, as I define it differently, I am more anxious than I can describe for the freedom of the country, where one may follow (sometimes) one's inclinations; and, at all events, shake off some of the fetters which here one must submit to wear. We hope to be at Tunbridge on the 1st of July; and *who knows* but that we may have the gratification of seeing you there soon after. That would be exactly according to my ideas of *pleasure*. In the meantime do tell me how far you are *advanced*, and when you mean really to *bring forth*. I dread your missing the best time of the year. And I have you so much upon my mind, that I feel an anxiety about your first appearance which almost amounts to folly.

"How beautiful your 'Love and Reason' is. But why is it that Reason cannot be made

more interesting? Who would desire to have her, if she is that joyless, frigid dame you poets describe her to be? She, however, has her revenge for the injustice the world does her. Other fair ones may be forsaken with impunity, but even poets will rue the day they neglect her. Take my advice, and keep on good terms with her. There are many pleasures to be found in her society,—none that last long out of it.

"Now fare thee well; yet think awhile
On one whose eyes do long to see thee."

"There is to be a masquerade at Marlborough House on Friday next, for which I understand Mr. W. Spencer has got tickets to give away. If you should have time to do so, I wish you would write to him to let me have two or three, as I have a great desire to make a fool of myself there, and to plague some of my dear friends to death.

"Yours. most sincerely, &c.,

"B. D."

From M. G. Lewis, Esq.

"Barnes, March 21, 1805.

"My dear Moore,

"Johnson's definition of the word *epistle* is—'a letter: this word is *seldom* used but in *poetry*;' but you will please to observe, that he does not say that it is *ever* used to mean a *poem*. He adds, 'or on occasions of solemnity or dignity.' Now, though I have not read the one at all, nor seen the other for some time, I cannot help thinking that this last definition will not be found very applicable either to your epistles or yourself; pray admire the quotation by which Johnson illustrates the latter part of his definition—

"When love's epistles violate chaste eyes,
She half consents, who silently denies."

There's an occasion of dignity and solemnity for you!

"Both Dr. Johnson and myself (two great authorities) absolutely deny that 'epistle' by itself ever meant, or will mean to the end of the world, a poem; to mean *that*, it should be stated to be an 'epistle in verse.' Are St. Paul's Epistles called so '*affectedly*?' When we read 'Dr. Atterbury's *Epistolary Correspondence*' in a title-page, are we to expect to find a book full of verses? *Epistle* is not in common use for *letter*, I allow; but though

it be a *poetical word*, it does not therefore mean a poem, any more than any *other* poetical word. It means simply 'a letter;' it may be a letter in prose, or a letter in verse; but as more letters are written in the former than in the latter, if you say, 'I will show you an Epistle'—unless you state it to be an epistle in verse, I ought to believe it to be one in prose. Yes; 'though epistles are not necessarily poems, poems have been very often epistles,'—and so have cooks very often been Blackamoors, though Blackamoors are not necessarily cooks; but you would not advertise in the newspapers, 'Want places, a middle-aged-woman cook, and three other Blackamoors.' The word 'other' which follows (you say) determines the *nature* of the epistles, and makes the prefix of 'poetical' unnecessary;—so that your advertisement is quite a dramatic composition, in which an agreeable surprise is kept in reserve to enliven the last act. But, my good fellow, in *my* opinion, it is this very word 'other' which makes all the mischief; for 'epistles and poems' would be well enough, and then when we bought the book we should find out whether they were in verse or prose. If you insist upon telling us *how*, you ought to say 'epistles in verse, and other poems.' But while you go on advertising 'epistles and other poems, dedicated to Jews and other natives of Ireland' (for you know '*though natives of Ireland are not necessarily Jews, Jews have been very often natives of Ireland*'), the reader of every newspaper has a right to be highly incensed at the trick '*which you've been after putting upon him.*' You assure him, upon your word of honour, that you are going to publish a volume of epistles. He very good-naturedly makes up his mind to read them; and as soon as he has so resolved, you call out, 'A bite, by Jasus! my epistles are poems, every mother's son of them!'—*He* starts back thunderstruck, and you enjoy his surprise. I certainly would not say 'tragedies and other poems,' unless those tragedies were in *verse*; would *you* say, 'comedies, and other poems,' though comedies are not *always* in prose? I will not pretend to say that Horace might not have written nonsense at Rome, and I should not care three skips of a flea if he had; but I maintain that Carpenter in your name has written nonsense in London; and I care too much about *you*,

not to wish that this should be put a stop to. This place is so cold and so dreary that I will not at present ask you to come down here; but in May I shall remember your proposal, and claim your promise of passing a day with me, and longer if you like it. I shall come to town for a few days about the end of next week, and will make a point of seeing you; and if circumstances will leave me at liberty, I shall be very happy to share your beef-steak.

"Yours most truly,

"M. G. LEWIS."

From Miss Godfrey.

"1806.

"Though I am badly off both for time and paper, yet I must contrive, some way or other, to tell you the very sincere pleasure we all feel at your complete triumph over the Edinburgh Reviewers. You will, of course, know before you receive this note that there is a new edition, just come out, of that review where you were so violently attacked; that the criticism of your works is altered and corrected, and all the violent abuse left out; and that Mr. Jeffrey desired you might be informed of it, and of his regret that, under all the circumstances of the case, he could not do more without appearing inconsistent, or, perhaps, having it supposed that he had been bullied. I believe Mr. Horner is to inform you of it. Yesterday my sisters dined with Rogers, and he told them all I have written to you, and which I have had so much pleasure in writing. My next pleasure will be to read the review. I must own, however, that though I think there is a sort of *grandeur d'âme* in acknowledging to all the world that one has been in the wrong, and very much in the wrong, yet, as a reviewer, I should suppose Mr. Jeffrey has given himself a death-blow, and has laid himself open to the attacks of every author whom he abuses for the future. Everybody argues, however, that it must be very gratifying to you, and I am sure you will believe that we most truly rejoice at it. I wish that I may happen to be the first to inform you of this little event in your life; and as I have not another moment to say another word, I shall bid you farewell for the present.

"M. G."

From Lady Donegal.

"Worthington, Sussex, Monday, 1806.

"I have been prevented writing to you as soon as I intended, by a bad headache, which has made me good for nothing for some days past; but as it has at last taken its leave, I shall let you rest in peace no longer, but call you to a strict account of what you have been doing since we parted. I do not expect to hear *much* good of you, which I think a lucky circumstance for you—for in this case, if by any chance I should hear of a *little*, it will have double weight; and if I should not, why then one is no worse than one was before. But I really am afraid that you will be again laid up if you are not more prudent than you were when we were in town—which is not likely, as you have no good-natured friends now at your elbow like us, to bore you all day long with lectures upon prudence, and to worry your life out with receipts for preserving it. The 'Morning Post' has informed us of your having been at another masquerade—where it was very stupid of you not to go in a character. It has also had the goodness to tell us that you were of Walsh Porter's *tête-à-tête* party, which I should think must have been rather an *oddish* one. What does he say of his friend the Prince? and what is the general opinion of the poor unfortunate Princess? I have not a doubt of her innocence; and I only hope that those may be punished who have had the cruelty to accuse her; but I fear that from motives of policy towards the Prince, the story will be hushed up. Is it true that the Duke of Brunswick is coming over? if it is, I shall wish myself in London, for there must be a *kick up* amongst them all, if he comes over.

"I take for granted that you see the three sisters all day long—beware!

"Have you any thoughts of making us a visit before you go to Ireland? I hope you have, but I would rather you did not come for a fortnight, as we are now about a mile from the town, which you would find inconvenient, and at that time we mean to remove into the town. Nothing can be more quiet than the lives we lead here; but we have been wretchedly off for books, as we came relying almost entirely upon the library here, which is wretched. However, your poems

(our constant companion) will console me till we can get books from town.

"My sisters desire me to say a thousand fine things which you must suppose said. And pray believe me, very sincerely yours,
B. D."

To Miss Godfrey.

"Remston, Leicestershire, Sept. 20, 1806.

"Thus far into the bowels of the land have I marched on without impediment? I know you will say I am an odd fellow, and as long as you say no worse of me I shall be contented. Why didn't I write all the last fortnight that I have been *Septembrisé* in town? Why didn't I apprise you that I was about to transport my illustrious carcase hither? And why didn't I—but the only answer I can make to Why didn't I? is Why—I didn't. The fact is, I was neither happy nor comfortable, and I did not like to throw the shade of my mind upon paper for you, though little bodies do not in general cast great shadows; yet you cannot imagine what an eclipse I spread around me whenever my orb becomes opaque with sorrow, or that the light of the heart does not shine pleasantly through me; and this has been the case all this fortnight past. I have had every possible colour of annoyance,—*brown* study, *blue* devils, not forgetting '*green* and *yellow* melancholy'—in short, I have been a 'rainbow ruffian' (as some sentimental poet styles a well-dressed soldier) and my *reflections* on paper would have been all of the prismatic kind. 'Oh, this learning! what a thing it is!' But to come to the plain matter-of-fact (which, you know, I love as well as I do roast mutton), I was fidgetted and teased by my impatience to get away from London, and by the impossibility from day to day of accomplishing it for want of those *paper-wings* which are so necessary to the *flights* of even poets themselves. I have, however, contrived to fly thus far; and oh! that I had the wings of a *Lottery Pigeon*, that I might flee away and be in Dublin. I hope in two or three days to manage this. I came down here in a new carriage of Raneliffe's, with his German servant to frank me along ('base is the slave who pays'), and the title of 'My Lord' lavished on me all the way; not without some little surprise that his lordship had

grown so much of late. I was unfortunate enough to be just in time for the Leicester Races, where I went with 'burning eyes of love' after my long night's travel, and figured away at the ball in the evening to the tune of Paddy O'Rafferty till three or four o'clock. The Duchess of Rutland was there. Think of her dining *in ordinary* with about two hundred Leicestershire *racers* and *graziers*, in their boots just fresh off the race-ground, staring at her with all their eyes and mouths. She did the honours in a most *queenish* style; and I asked one of those turf gentlemen whether he did not think she was a fine 'Monarch Mare.' Now this is a joke even still more distant from your comprehension than jokes in general, because it is a familiar designation among sportsmen for the female descendants of a certain famous gentleman whom they call *Monarch*; and I assure you that it had all the 'jest's prosperity' among the black-legs.

"Best love to Lady Donegal: direct your next letters under cover to Edward Connor, Esq., War Office, Dublin Castle. Yours,

"T. M."

To Miss Godfrey.

"Dublin, 1806.

"I hope Lady Donegal received the letter which I wrote to her on my arrival here, though I think if she had, she would have been honest enough to have repaid it before now; and I should not have delayed so long answering your *very dear* letter, if I had not been for these five or six days laid up in my old way on the sofa, not so much with illness as with the dread of illness. I had two or three broad hints from my side that it intended to recommence operations; so, without waiting for the attack, I adopted that 'stirring little man, Bonaparte's' system, and marched an army of leeches over it immediately; a little hostile blood has been spilt, and everything, I am happy to say, seems restored to its former tranquillity. You cannot imagine how desperately vulgar and dreary this place is! I have not even Mrs. Tigh* to comfort me, but I expect she will be in town in a week or two. I regret very much to find that she is becoming so '*furieusement littéraire*:' one used hardly to get a peep at her blue stockings, but now I am afraid she shows

* Author of "Psyche."

them up to the knee: however, I shall decide for myself when I see her, as certainly this city, among the other features of a country town which it has acquired, has not forgotten that unfailing characteristic, *scandal*. If it were not for my own dears immediately about me, and the old books of Tranquil Faber in St. Patrick's Library, I should die the death of the desperate here. I have been received certainly with every possible mark of attention: most of the men of situation have left their cards with me, and, amongst the rest, the new Provost of the University, who as being the depository of the morals of the country, and personally a very High Priest into the bargain, gave me more pleasure by his visit than any of them. The Harringtons have asked me two or three times to dinner; and this very day I was to have been presented at a private audience to the Duke of Bedford, but he has not come to town on account of illness I believe, and it will not take place till to-morrow. All these things, to be sure, are merely *feathers in the cap*, but they are feathers I like to shake in the eyes of some envious people here amazingly. I entreat of you to write often to me. Your last letter was like summer sunshine to me—not only bright but warm, not only luminous but comfortable. That blessed ingredient, *affection*, which would sweeten the homeliest draught, comes doubly sweet in the Falerian you sent me, and I beg of you to repeat the dose as often as possible.

"Best love to Lady Donegal and your sister Philippa.

"Ever yours,

"T. M."

To Lady Donegal.

"Dec. 4, 1806.

"I have often said that correspondence between two friends should be like the flow of notes in music,—if too long an interval is allowed to take place between the tones, one loses the *chain* of song, the idea of melody is interrupted, and we listen to the sounding note (when it comes) with faint, or at least diminished, gratification. Is it not exactly so with letters? But all I can say is, that it was *you* who taught me this bad practice; and that if I had not found you so slow to *answer*, I never could have become so slow

to write. *Action and reaction* is as much a law of friendship as it is of nature ; and it is but too natural for my writing to cease in proportion as it finds your *answering* so tardy. This causation, I know, includes us both : but I call all the gods to witness that yours is the greatest share of guilt ; and if you will but show promptitude in answering this letter, you will find me as true a hero as ever *exchanged paper* with an antagonist. Dublin has at length become gay ; but it is a kind of *conscript* gaiety, in which the people assemble with all the ill-grace of French *volontaires forcés*. There is nothing, however, but dinners,—daily, dull, d—n—ble dinners ; and I have time to do little more than ‘faire le saut de l’Allemand, du lit à la table et de la table au lit.’ The Bedfords have been very civil to me, and have had me to dinner and at private parties with them. The Harringtons, too, are gracious, but it is ‘leather and prunella.’ My heart is sick of them all, and I see nothing for me but to become either one of Bonaparte’s Kinglets, or enlist among Sir Francis Burdett’s bludgeon-men. Any little hopes I have had of advancement are gone. Among the great, both in England and Ireland, there is nothing now left but pride, self-interest, and, I think, a fatal insufficiency, whose day of trial seems to be near, and whose fate may be too much what it deserves. The country parts of Ireland are in a most disturbed state. Under the name of *Threshers*, the United Irishmen are again organizing ; and the prophecy-mongers tell us that Bonaparte is the Grand Thresher, who is described as coming to ‘thresh the nations.’ Certainly no one ever performed a mission more completely. Our Judges are going down, under strong escorts, to these disturbed parts of the country ; but Judges are not the people to send against *Threshers*. In short, the lightning is flashing in our eyes, and some people will not see it ; the thunder is rolling in our ears, and some people will not hear it. But the bolt will fall, and then (as young Rousseau said, going to bed without his supper) ‘Good bye, roast beef!’

“I was delighted to see that our friend General Spencer has got a regiment. But where is he ? I have seen no account of that expedition since I left London.

“It goes to my heart to think that it will

be so long before I meet you again, and that you will be caring less and less for me every day of that time. I know your opinion about absence, and I dread so much that you speak from feeling and from practice ! I have sometimes indeed, in my own case, found my stock of recollections nearly exhausted, and then I confess that the eyes of the object were the only warehouse where I could lay in a new store, genuine and fresh ; but these were recollections meant merely for light ‘summer wear,’ and not even expected to last. I shall hope, however, that ours is of a different texture, and that even if it does diminish, the wear of it, like that of gold, will be so slow and insensible, as not to make us feel any loss in its value. I shall go to Donnington village when I leave this, and there bury myself, as I have no idea any longer of letting my light shine, like the sun in the Zodiac, for the *illumination of monsters*.

“Pray give my best remembrances to your sisters. Tell Miss Godfrey that if she would not stand upon the ceremony of hearing from me by this post, and write immediately, it would give me a very high opinion of her benevolence. I shall fire a letter at her to-morrow or next day. But this day I happened to dine at home, and, behold, you have the fruits of it.

“ ‘Tis now ten at night, and my brains give no light,
And the Postman rings ding-dong.

“So good bye. Believe me,

“Yours very cordially,

“THOMAS MOORE.

“Atkinson, to whom I have sent this to be franked (too late) begs his most cordial remembrances, and hopes that he is not forgotten by your Ladyship.”

To his Mother.

“Thursday, April, 1807.

“My dearest Mother,

“I got letters from all the little circle the other day except yourself. Tell dear Ellen I was very happy to welcome her preface to our correspondence, and that I hope she will not lag like other people ; though indeed I retract all my blame of Kate, for she has been very good to me. I am going to-day to the first gay thing I have had since I came—indeed, I have not seen a face but Mary Dalby’s, and

that but once a week, since I came; but to-day I gig it to Ashby, nine miles off, where I dine with Parson M'Doual, Lady Loudoun's cousin, and then proceed in the evening to a concert and ball, consisting of Ashby amateurs and amateuresses; and I expect to find my corked-up spirits flying like spruce-beer or soda-water. I assure you, whenever I meet any one to talk to now, they suffer for my long silence by myself, and my fits of oratory are prodigious. God bless you, dearest mother! My father's letter gave me most sweet comfort. Ever your own "TOM."

From Miss Godfrey.

"June 9, 1807.

"You are the most ingenious man at making excuses, telling lies, and deceiving poor woman, that ever fell in my way in my pilgrimage upon earth; and your last letter to me is a most beautiful composition of this sort, and, albeit, might impose upon any one of my sex but myself. Alas, and alack-a-day! I have not lived so long with you for nothing. I have found you out, and know full well, to my sorrow and regret, that unless you are in love with a woman you don't care a pin about her, if she does not worry and torment you into thinking of her sometimes; and poor dear Friendship, after being obliged to march up boldly and take you by assault, must keep a constant watch upon you afterwards, or she will most certainly lose you. Well, there is no help for it—with all your faults I like you still. Pray don't think of going to Ireland without paying us a visit either here or at Tunbridge. We shall be excessively disappointed if you do. I changed my plans since I wrote to you last, and have remained on in town; in the first place, because I got better, and in the second place, because the Shaftesburys would not let me stir, whether I were better or worse. So here I am, and here we all are, till the middle of next week, and then we propose to return to Tunbridge, and either here or there, a visit from you will give us the sincerest pleasure. I think your return to Ireland looks like marrying, and if the lady be young and handsome, and rich, what better can you do? The latter she *must* be, or you *must* not think of her, and all the rest I hope she will be. Are you really thinking of such a step? * * * * *

Lord Shaftesbury* is reading and admiring your poems at present; he desired me to tell you that he has got an Anacreon for you which he means to give you when he sees you. It was given to him by a Professor in the University at Genoa, who understood English, and admired your translation to the greatest degree; and upon Lord Shaftesbury saying you were an acquaintance of his, he made him a present of this Anacreon, which is printed in capital letters, or something uncommon, which a poor ignorant woman cannot be expected to understand or explain. I forgot to tell you in my last that I saw Cumberland at Tunbridge, and I took an opportunity of mentioning to him how much you were obliged by the manner in which he had spoken of you in his book. So he smiled and panted, put his head on one side, and said how happy he was—that you were quite charming: 'He has more talents than any of them; I was obliged to admit his faults to obtain credit for what I said of his excellences, otherwise praise would have been injudicious and useless.' I asked him if Rogers had not told him, as I begged he would, how flattered you felt upon the occasion; and his answer was, 'He be hanged; he never told me one word about it.' The Fincastles set off for Scotland yesterday; they are to remain there two years. I am sorry for it, as I really like them both, and him in particular. Rogers is gone to Hampshire for three weeks, and I suppose Spencer is weeping, and wailing, and gnashing his teeth, an operation which he will take care to perform in public that he may be seen of men. What do you call this but ill-nature? And yet I swear to you I hate ill-nature, and I don't dislike Spencer; he is a good-humoured heartless fellow, and we shake hands and are jolly whenever we meet. Whenever you see Lady Shaftesbury† you must love her, for she is all over heart and goodness; and Lady Barbara is a pretty, amiable little girl, and you can't help loving her. Now, farewell; perhaps this day twelvemonth I may receive the answer to this letter, scolding me, as you always do, when you are conscious of behaving ill to me, for my long silence.

"M. G.

"Your letter, having gone round by Tunbridge, came too late for us to drink your

* Anthony, fifth Earl.

† Daughter and heir of Sir John Webb.

health on your birthday. I shall drink it twice next year."

"You are a shabby fellow for having written three long pages to Mary, without once mentioning the name of unfortunate me. I wish I could flatter myself that this omission was intentional, for then I could forgive it; but as it proceeds from downright forgetfulness, I own my wrath will endure till you have atoned for such an outrage against friendship. With all your sins upon your head, I hope we shall see you at Tunbridge, as it would grieve me sincerely to think that you were to return to Ireland without seeing us, even for one week.

"Yours most truly, &c. &c.

"B. D."

From Samuel Rogers, Esq.

"Jan. 21, 1809.

"No, my dear Moore; I must insist upon firing shot for shot, and if you have not received my fire, it was only because I could not take my aim, for I left Town immediately on the receipt of your kind letter, and unfortunately left it behind, with your address contained in it. I rejoice to hear you have been so well off in the most important of all things—at least so, to your happiness and mine; and though Mrs. Seymour has left you, I dare say you have already filled up the vacancy. The last month I have idled away at private houses in the country,—at Woolbeding*, where all was luxury; and at Glynd, a seat of Lord Hampden's, as old as the world itself, where the long, long galleries and gigantic staircases were as windy as the sea-shore; and where my own bed-chamber, hung with arras, smelt so strongly of time, that I could have sworn that John of Gaunt, or some ancestor of his, lay asleep in his stone coffin under my bed. Brighton, from which I came yesterday, is still very gay, and full of balls. There I left (full of smiles, and talking much of you) Miss Dallas. Do you remember her at R. Thornton's breakfast? I told her you wished to dance with her there, and her eyes brightened into diamonds. There also are the Grattans, the Thompsons, the Lady Isabella Fitzgerald †, as full of romance as any heroine, and Miss Tu-

dor, an American, who says she knows you, though you must have forgot her, and who is rather admired by the men, though hated by the women, reciting odes of Horace, and in beauty surpassing anything I have heard of among her countrymen—the Iroquois and Illinois, the Cherokees, the Chicasaws, the Chipewaws, the Ottawas, or Catabaws. Our friends in Davies Street* I have seen but for ten minutes since my return; but they are well, and look better and gayer than I have ever seen them. They upbraided me very deservedly for my not writing to you. They had a party last night—the Berrys, Mrs. Damer, T. Hope, and other delectables; but I could not go, being knocked up with a cold. Arthur goes to school next week. A month ago Gifford called to communicate *confidentially* his design to publish immediately a Review on the plan of the 'Edinburgh,' to be called the 'London Review.'† I must confess I heard of it with pleasure, as I thought it might correct an evil we have long lamented together. He wishes much for contributions, and all contributors (as is the case with the 'Edinburgh Review') are to be paid indiscriminately. He is exceedingly anxious that you should assist him as often as you can afford time. You may choose what book to review you like (and you are to receive twenty guineas for every sheet of letter-press), subject, however, to any alterations and corrections whatever of the Editor, who is to retain an unlimited control, as Jeffrey retains at Edinburgh; a very proper regulation I think. I gave him great hopes of you (as well as some of myself), and he has since sent Hoppner to me once or twice to urge me to write to you on the subject. Some circumstances which I have since learnt must, however, be stated to you. They affect my mind a little, and not a little. It seems the politics of Jeffrey's 'Review' have long given great offence to the Government party, particularly at Edinburgh; and Walter Scott, who formerly wrote in it principally in the quizzing department, has on that account (and perhaps for some private reasons) withdrawn his countenance and support. At the desire of

* Lady Donegal.

† This design was soon afterwards carried out; but instead of the "London," it was called the "Quarterly" Review.

* Lord Robert Spencer's.

† Married the Count de Chabot.

some persons in power, particularly Canning and the Lord Advocate, he has written a very long letter on the subject to Gifford (which I have seen), detailing, ably enough, the plan on which the Review should be conducted, and pressing the scheme upon G. as a good desideratum 'to counteract the deleterious principles of the "Edinburgh Review."' At this I took alarm; but Gifford assures me that though of course the politics will be Ministerial, it will by no means be a principal object; and he desires me to assure you so. However, I confess it shakes me a little, though Hoppner, who is very sanguine about it, does not think it should. I have now, at their ardent desire, made my report to you. When I first hinted your name to G. he jumped at the sound, and I believe has not slept since. His intention is to pay ten guineas a sheet, but the Edinburgh people pay twenty, and he cheerfully agrees to it in your instance. It seems Brougham's Review of Cevallos* has blown Edinburgh into blaze, and lists have been taken from house to house to collect the signatures of those who would engage no longer to take it in. All this in *confidence*, of course, as the secret is not my own. I have now fulfilled my promise to torment you on the subject. I meant to write about girls and verses, and it has ended in a long prosing on Scotch Reviewers. Spencer is still, I believe, circumstanced as you left him. The subscription goes on; but I fancy with no great effect. When I saw him at Gilwall two months ago, he mentioned an idea (suggested by the D. of Devonshire) of publishing his poems by subscription. I have not seen him since. As for myself, I am now reprinting mine with a few additions. I had thoughts of adding more; but, alas! I have none to consult with now you are away. You say nothing of your employments. A thousand, thousand thanks for a most elegant set of volumes. I am delighted with your intention to make your *débüt* on the stage,—as an author, I mean. Of your fame as an actor I have had many reverberations. Your sketch of Ireland is most melancholy, and gloomy enough is the scene here just now. Adieu, my dear Moore, and believe me to be,

"Ever yours most affectionately,

"SAMUEL ROGERS.

* In Edinburgh Review, vol. xiii.

"When are we to expect you?

"I have still Methuen's effusions. He writes about them, alas! every post.

"I dine to-day in Davies Street. How I wish you were of the party! Lady D.'s faintings have just returned upon her."

From Miss Godfrey.

"Feb. 15, 1809.

"If I were to give way to my feelings, I should scold, fight, and quarrel with you for three long hours to come; but having a wonderful command over myself, and always listening to the voice of reason; and being of a Christian-like, forgiving temper, and possessing ten thousand other virtues which I have not time to mention at present, I shall pass over your sins and offences as lightly as I can, and refer you for all I leave unsaid to your own mind. See that page of it where all your best feelings and recollections are recorded, and tell me if you find nothing there to reproach you. A line or two to an absent friend now and then, one would suppose, was no weighty sacrifice. It is just the affair of five minutes; and if you carry your Epicurean love of repose so far as to think this a great effort, I am sorry for you, poor Tom, and very sorry for myself and all your other friends, for you will forget us all at last, merely because it is too much trouble to remember us. Rogers growls at you also. But I don't fight anybody's battles but my own. I wish I knew when you really intend to come back, and what you are about, and what has become of your learned and pious women, and whether you have seen my sister Philly, and a great many other wishes also I have, of different sorts and sizes too tedious for insertion. I wonder what you have felt and thought, and feel and think, about the Court of Inquiry, our miseries in Spain and our fooleries at home. Do you feel any compassion for the Duke of York, as a great many people do? I do; for I dare say the greater part of his accusers are just as guilty themselves. Once upon a time high situation, like charity, covered a multitude of sins: that day is completely gone by, and the higher the criminal at present the greater the punishment. Public disgrace falls so much heavier upon a Royal Highness, than the pillory would upon his *valet-de-chambre*, and its effects are so much

more fatal. I believe we are all advancing fast to revolution. Not that it appears to be at all the wish of contented, stupid John Bull; but event after event seems to lead to it, and while he lets every abuse pass silently by, circumstances draw him on in spite of himself, and I am sure we shall all wake some fine morning in the middle of a revolution, without knowing where upon earth it came from. The King is quite miserable at it, and has said that it is the first time the House of Brunswick has degraded itself. * * * No one can guess where inquiries and prosecutions will stop: and there is a general apprehension of the result. In the meantime the House of Commons roar with laughing from five o'clock in the evening till two in the morning. Every house that you go into is occupied with the subject. No one talks of anything else. Our brave men fell, and are forgotten by every one but Bonaparte, who is not so ungrateful as to forget all that we have done for the success of his schemes. I really can't help writing you all this, for I hear no other subject talked of. Yesterday the crowd was so great, that it was with difficulty the Members could get up to the House. Lord Strangford got on badly enough at the Brazils. He is very much disliked by the English; but he has an unbounded influence over the Prince's mind. I'll tell you the rest in my next letter; but the post-bell rings, and so adieu. Bab sends her best love to you.

"M. G."

To his Mother.

"Donnington Park, 1809.

"My dearest Mother,

"I think I have got into some mistakes in my reckoning, and whether I have given you a letter too little or too much I cannot at this moment determine. A squire in the neighbourhood here came and forced me over to dine with him and Lord Robert Manners, and I dawdled away two days with them, which has deranged all my calculations. The letter that Kate asks about was written for publication, but not in the manner that Sir John's luminous biographer has introduced it; it makes part of a prospectus which I wrote for Power, and which I dare say you

have seen by this time printed on a single sheet. The letter was never written to the Knight, or you may be sure I should not have been so ill-bred as to quote Latin in it. I have lost all my comforts here already. The house is arrayed in all its company-dress, and waits in prim expectation of their arrival, like the poor maids of honour in George II.'s time, who used to sit up all night in arm-chairs with their heads drest, in order to be ready for Court next morning. I can't stir an inch without meeting some crimson carpets, &c., that must be spotless for my Lady's eye when she comes. God bless you. Ever your own
"Tom.

"By the bye, there is the best Irishism in that said 'Dublin Magazine' that ever I met with. The editor in a note upon the last cover very gravely entreats the reader to 'keep in mind' that Miss Owenson's portrait is *not* Sir John Stevenson's."

From Miss Godfrey.

Davies Street, June 20, 1809.

"I cannot bear this profound silence any longer. I believe you could bear it to all eternity—to your everlasting shame be it spoken. In the natural course of human affairs it was Bab who should have written and not me, and she has been always talking of doing so. I have seen the pen in her hand for the purpose, and even the first line composed; but as it has never gone farther my patience could stand it no longer, and I made a vow that I would write to you myself, and put you in mind of your poor dear absent friends, and ask you also about your poor dear self at the same time. And pray, sir (says I, very civilly), how are you, where are you, and what are you about? Are you conversing with the mighty dead, or addressing yourself to future ages? or, albeit, are you ingloriously chatting with your Fannys and Phillises in the corner, and swearing to the dear creatures that you can't live without them? As for me, sweet sir (for of course you return my kind inquiries by still kinder ones about myself), I am, at this present writing, sick to death of London, oppressed by its bustle, stunned by its noise, choked by its dust, and stifled by its smoke. And if you know any worse state of existence than this, take up your pen instantly and

describe it to me, that I may have the pleasure of answering you by the return of post, and proving clearly to your satisfaction that you are in the greatest of all possible errors if you can suppose any situation can be more miserable than the one I have just had the honour of describing to your excellency. * * *

Parliament is to be up on Thursday, after having 'played such fantastic tricks before high heaven as,' I take it for granted, 'made the very angels weep.' This very moment it occurs to me that this was the cause of the wet season we have had—it was all angels' tears which we vulgarly called rain.

"At present what do you say about revolution? I think we shall escape. We are in the high road to reform. It is the fashion of the times. Every man that wants to make a name finds out an abuse. The Opposition are just as much alarmed at this spirit as the Ministers, and are just as unpopular with the people, at which they are quite indignant. This third party is called the Mountain. The Archduke Charles and Bonaparte keep the world in a state of breathless expectation. Whoever gains, rivers of blood must flow, and anarchy or slavery is the miserable alternative. It makes one sick.

"Rogers is very much discomposed at your having anything to do with Carpenter. Still he says you do yourself great injustice in continuing in his hands, and I believe so too, for we suspect him—at least Bab and I do—not to be in circumstances to pay you as other booksellers would. I have not said anything of the disappointment we felt at your not coming to England this year. We did, however, feel it truly and sincerely; but what can one do upon such occasions but submit with a good grace to what one can't help?

"Bab's love to you, and mine also.

"M. G."

From Lady Donegal.

"Tunbridge Wells, July 14, 1809.

"It positively is a grievous misfortune to have any one belonging to us of a more active turn of mind and with nimbler fingers than our own,—for the natural consequence is, that indolence is indulged in till it becomes a vice; and we all know how difficult a matter it is to conquer vicious habits; and that you, Mr. Little, should be the means of conquering mine

is what must appear extraordinary to many. But so it is; for your 'Sceptic' has converted me to the true faith of writing to my friends again, and, in the *true* spirit of friendship, of finding fault with them when I see occasion for it. I am more vexed than I can say at your attack upon —. Every one must know her in a moment; and though none can like her, or even tolerate her, yet she is a woman, and as such ought not to be attacked when she has no way of defending herself. Do what you will with Lords Mulgrave and Castlereagh, or with any other lord or gentleman you choose, but let poor women pass unmolested.

"You will be surprised at my taking her part; but it is not for her sake, it is for yours that I feel vexed. And I would give a great deal to have her name effaced; for those who do not know you as well as I do will impute the attack to some unworthy motive, and perhaps call it pique, or revenge, for the rudeness of her conduct to you. I implore you, therefore, to scratch her out, and have done with her. In the meantime I will confess that I have carefully locked up the copy you sent to me, and do not talk of it to any one, Mary excepted, who thinks with me about it, and who joins with me in regretting that where there is so much to admire there should be any drawback to our admiration. What a lecture this is! and what an opinion I must have of your disposition, and of your regard for me, to suppose that you will pardon it! But I pique myself upon knowing you well, and I therefore feel sure that you will 'forgive the freedom of a friend.'

"What a pretty return all this for your kindness in sending the poem to me, and yet I do assure you that I feel very much obliged to you for your recollection of us, and very much gratified by it; for one constant dread I have upon my mind is, that your long absence will weaken your feelings for your friends at this side of the water, and that every day your recollections of them will get fainter, till at last they will melt into the horizon, and the foreground of your picture will be the only part that will interest you. Arthur, Mary, and myself comprise our family party here, where we arrived last Monday. At present there is nobody here that I would ever wish to see again; but in a little time

we expect the Ellenboroughs, the Berrys, Charles Moore, and Rogers, none of whom have any particular attractions in your eyes; and yet there are some good heads and some good hearts amongst them, though few of the faces are worth looking at.

"Mary desires to be affectionately remembered to you.

"What are you now about? Be it good or be it bad, tell me. Yours very truly, &c.,

"B. D."

From Samuel Rogers, Esq.

"London, July 10, 1809.

"My dear Moore,

"I have nothing indeed to do but to throw myself upon your generosity, having so shamefully abused it, and to promise amendment, the only reparation in my power; but, alas! is it in my power? If I may confess my weakness to you,—a weakness I have never concealed,—I have no hope. I cannot write; and continually do I walk miles to save the necessity of writing a single line. Nor, on reflection, can I say that I remember ever to have given any assurance on the subject. No; I was too well acquainted with myself to make any. I said to you, 'Stay here, and let us converse, face to face.' You replied, 'No; let us do it with pen, ink, and paper.' Now as you will not—perhaps cannot—indulge me in my wish (and sincere it is, as you well know), it seems a little hard that I am to be blamed by everybody for a mental incapacity which I have often acknowledged to my friends with shame and sorrow; and besides, if you were a person of *an amiable absence*, it might be politic in us, if we had the vanity to think it was in our power, to render that absence as pleasant to you as possible. As it is, my dear Moore, we cannot wish to reconcile you to it by any exertion of ours.

"Now I have vapoured and bullied,—and to blame others is always wise, when we ourselves are in the wrong. I will tell you how much I miss you in my walks in the Park, and at Vauxhall, and on the Thames; but much as I grieve, I must say that you have determined wisely. Lady Charlemont is again on the wing for Dublin, as beautiful as ever. She talks of your songs with the same enthusiasm she used to do. The other night, at Lady Cork's, I heard Lady Hamilton sing, 'Friend

of my soul,' and 'The Wreath you wove,' with great spirit. I could not help thinking, and so, perhaps, did many others, that I had heard them sung differently. Jeffrey has been here, and is gone: he inquired very particularly after you. The 'Edinburgh Review' used to sell 10,000 copies; the 'Quarterly' sells 2500. Walter Scott has just left us. He dined with Princesses and Ministers of State, and was always engaged a fortnight deep. He made rain and sunshine in this town at pleasure. Cumberland dined with me yesterday. He is greatly changed, but still lively. He took up a volume of your Anacreon that was lying on the table, and spoke of you, as he always does, in the warmest terms. Poor Spencer! He took the field again when Lady Susan returned, but ill-health drove him back to Gilwell, and there he now is, with some symptoms of dropsy upon him. When he came to town, he drove to Ward's; but when he entered the house, he found, as he told me, trunks in the hall, and many alarming signs. Ward, in less than a week, let his house, and fled to Spain. He then drove to L. Dicks', and there he passed the two months he spent among us. D. was very vain of his guest. He never disturbed him, appointed two men to wait upon him; and whenever S. dined at home, Dick gave a *fête*. So Methuen has resolved to print. Woe is me!

"Adieu, my dear Moore, and believe me to be,

"Yours, ever,

"SAMUEL ROGERS.

"A pamphlet is just left with me. Many thanks! It is worthy of the former, though, I think, written with a little more rapidity. The second time I read it, I liked it still better than the first. It is full of point and nerve; and will, I am sure, establish the fame of the former, as well as its own. Alas! I have no account to give of myself.

"I am printing a new book, full of old things—*i. e.*, a new edition."

From Samuel Rogers, Esq.

"St. James's Place, Dec. 23, 1809.

"No, my dear Moore; never will I presume to say what you shall do. Your 'nightly visitant' will whisper better things in your ear than any human voice; and if you are in a vein of satire just now, for heaven's sake write

satire. So long as you write such lines as conclude the 'Sceptic,' I shall never complain for one. I am rejoiced to think that you are happy, which indeed you cannot fail to be while you are making others so; but don't let the Graces supplant the Muses. You mention nothing of the subjects that engage you, and perhaps you are right. I have just now sent forth a new edition of an old book, a little better, I hope, than the last. It is not, however, I believe, yet abroad: when I get a copy I will try to send it to you. I suppose Carpenter will undertake to do it. As for me, I have been for the last month something of an invalid. Bile and Baillie have been my only companions, save and except a very well-drest company of black spirits and white, blue spirits and gray; but they have now taken leave, and I am beginning to break the shell, and hope soon to fly, if not to sing.

"Adieu, my dear Moore, and believe me to be,

"Ever yours, most sincerely,

"SAMUEL ROGERS."

To Lady Donegal and Miss Godfrey.

"Birmingham, Monday, 1810.

"I am so far on my way to you, and just wait to take breath before I encounter the various kinds of feelings that I shall have upon my arrival. It is a sad thing to be ashamed to meet one's friends, and I should be sorry to think that I have any such feeling about me; yet, when I know that I have so long disappointed the wishes and hopes of those who are interested about me, it is impossible not to dread such reproachful salutations as, 'I am sorry you did so,' and, 'I wonder you didn't do so,' and a thousand other anxious comments, which one must only feel without answering. But the good nature and the true cordiality with which I *know* I shall be received in Davies Street, give me courage to meet even the reproaches which perhaps may be mingled with them; and all I intreat of you is that, for a little while at least, you will neither ask me what I *have* done, or even what I *mean* to do, but draw upon your *first* good opinion of me (if that fund be not entirely exhausted) to enable you *still* to look forward with a hope of something good and respectable from me. To tell you that I mean to give up society would be only to make you smile and remember how often that wise resolution has

been *paraded* by me: but *years* make some difference even in fools, and though they may not give us *wisdom*, they do a good deal in changing the *objects* of our folly. After this preparatory letter, which, I am afraid, has always the clumsiness of a pioneer without his strength, I shall bid you good-bye till Wednesday or Thursday, when I mean to have a hearty shake of the hand with you in Davies Street. This letter is to *both*, as my friendship is.

"Ever faithfully yours,

"THOMAS MOORE."

To Lady Donegal.

July, 1810.

"I shall not attempt to defend myself; for it would really require more sophistry and more impudence than (bad as I am) I possess to think of proving that I am not *quite wrong* in having so long deferred writing to you. But is there not *some* little grace in this avowal? and would it not require the hardest heart in the world to be angry with me after such an humble confession of my errors? I *know* you will forgive me; because, after all, you understand very well yourself the sort of unwillingness one has to take up a stitch that has long dropped in a correspondence; and though I think I am as sure of your heart as of any heart in this world, yet I do firmly believe that '*yours sincerely*' is the only part of a letter that you take any real pleasure in writing to me—isn't it so? As for myself, there are *a few* in the world for whom I would *willingly* shed my last *blood*, and yet I *cannot help* being sparing of my *ink* to them. I know sister Mary thinks this very odd, for she would sooner draw a pen than a sword at any time; but it is my *weakness*, and a very lazy weakness it is, I confess,—one great inconvenience of which is that my letters, when they *do* come, are only apologies for those that did *not* come, and my not having written is almost the only thing I have to write about. Pope says that '*Heaven first sent letters*;' but if it required *answers* to the letters it sent, I am afraid that Heaven would have found me an unpunctual correspondent.—So much for the main subject of my epistle; and now, having made such a bad hand of what I have *not* done, I wish I could give you even a tolerable account of what I *have* done; but, I don't

know how it is, both my mind and heart appear to have lain for some time completely *fallow*, and even the usual crop of *wild oats* has not been forthcoming. What is the reason of this? I believe there is in every man's life (at least in every man who has lived as if he knew how to live) one blank interval, which takes place at that period when the gay desires of youth are just gone off, and he has not yet made up his mind as to the feelings or pursuits that succeed them—when the last blossom has fallen away, and yet the fruit continues to look harsh and unpromising—a kind of *interregnum* which takes place upon the demise of *love*, before ambition and worldliness have seated themselves on the vacant throne. * * * I am now on a visit with a man who has ten thousand a year, and who keeps the best table within the bills of mortality; but the house, notwithstanding, is most preciously dull; the cook and I are the only *sarans* on the establishment, and the *sauce* is the only thing *piquante* I have to deal with in it. I intend however, if I can, to turn my seclusion to account, and to write something *marketable* for this next year; for money I *must* have, if the Muses were to die for it; and of all the birds of the air, the *goldfinch's* notes for me. By-the-by, talking of money, you insult me in a most pointed manner by never once touching upon the subject in any of your letters. You seem to think it quite as ridiculous to mention money-matters to *me*, as it would be to write to Hammersley about the Loves of the Plants; but I'd have you to know—seriously, I take it rather unkind of you that you do not tell me how you are getting on with those sad samples of nobility you have to deal with, for though my hard fate prevents me from being any thing but a burthen to you, yet you ought to do me the justice to feel that I am anxious about all that concerns you, and that to know the *worst* from yourself is better than being made to fear everything bad by others. Mrs. Crookshank, about a month ago, told me some circumstances which gave me much and real pain. Ah! nothing goes *right* in this world, *except* for those with whom everything (*please God*) will go *wrong* in the other. Really, one is obliged to feel either very profanely or very piously, when one sees the kind of persons that are put upon the black list in this life.

Do, pray, let me know something about your affairs, and do not for an instant suppose that I am not as warmly and anxiously alive to everything connected with you and your happiness, as I was when near you, and as I ever, while I live, shall continue to be.

"I hope you did not dislike my dedicatory letter to you. It was sent to the press before I recollected that I ought to have asked your permission for the step, and it was this afterwards that made me resort to the awkward expedient of putting only the initials of your name. Most people here think it is Lady Downshire, which is very stupid of them, though perhaps *you* will not be sorry for the transfer. As to politics, I begin rather to hope that the kind of change most for *my advantage* (and perhaps most for the advantage of the country) will take place next sessions, and that the Whigs will come in, in spite of my other friends the Reformists, who seem to be dropping off the perch very fast indeed; and certainly never did *dirtier sticks* ascend in the *bright shape* of rockets than some of these said Reformists have proved themselves to be. Cobbett is contemptible; Wardle is in the mud; and Burdett himself is, I believe, beginning to think that politics, like 'poverty, brings a man acquainted with strange bedfellows.' When I mention my hopes from the Whigs, I found them chiefly upon the impression which my last pamphlet has made among them. I have had letters of the most flattering kind possible from Grattan, Lord Lansdowne, Lord Moira, the Duke of Bedford, &c., and the language which they use, particularly Lord Lansdowne and the Duke of Bedford, looks very like a persuasion in their minds that I might be somewhat useful to them. But I was almost forgetting to tell you of the strange honour that came by surprise upon me the other day. I received a letter from Stockholm, through Hammersley's house (where it had been detained *about a year*), informing me that I had been elected a Knight of the illustrious, secular, equestrian, and chaptal Order of St. Joachim*, on account of my reputation for literature on the Continent. This, you know, is one of the orders made hereditary in the family of Nelson. I thought for a moment that it was a

* See Preface to vol. ii. of Moore's Collected Works.

hoax, and the name of the saint appeared to me very well chosen, being easily convertible into *St. Joke-him*; but upon applying to Naylor, the Windsor genealogist, and others, to whom this letter from the Vice-Chancellor of the Order referred me, I found it to be all a most illustrious and chapteral matter-of-fact; so I am now Sir Thomas Moore, K. J., elect. I have not yet answered the letter, but it is my intention respectfully to decline the honour, as literary knights (even if the knighthood were acknowledged) are anything but reputable personages in the eyes of John Bull, to whom the respect for authorship that exists on the Continent is as unintelligible as their cookery, and goes against his stomach quite as much.

"And now, good bye. Give dear sister Mary my best and warmest regards; tell her I shall write just as long a letter to her very soon, and that *that* letter and another will be about long enough to cover the space between this and our meeting, which I trust will be a happy one; and to which I shall carry just as warm a heart and as constant a spirit (I mean in friendship) as ever.

"Yours,

"T. M."

From Samuel Rogers, Esq.

"Oct. 21st, 1810.

"My dear Moore,

"When I received your last letter, I sat down immediately and wrote an answer to it. If you wish to know what became of the answer, you *shall* know—I burnt it. I will now proceed to subjects I like better. Your rencontre with the D. of R., as they relate to yourself and not to me, must have affected you not a little. The conclusion was alike honourable to both, and will be pleasant by-and-by to look back upon among the adventures of your life. Your pamphlet, for which I have never thanked you (though the burnt MS. was full of it), I read with great delight. Grattan spoke of it in the warmest language, and it deserved all he said. Your prose I always greatly admired, and look with great impatience for the wreaths you are preparing for the brows of Virgil and Horace. Don't you sometimes imagine that they are sitting by you in your chamber, while you are writing their lives (as you mean to do) from their

own lips? Catullus has long left you. He was the first called upon, no doubt. Have you yet read the poems of W. Scott? The story of the last is very pretty, though the execution is inferior to that of the first. But I have so many questions to ask you, and they crowd so fast upon my pen, that I must throw them all aside till I see you, which I do hope will now be soon; or is your return to be deferred till the Peace? Really, my dear Moore, human life is so short, and the bright moments in it of such rare occurrence, that I cannot endure such privations. Pray, come and scold me *vivâ voce*, and then I will reply to you with what frankness I can. There is no holding a *tête-à-tête* across the Irish Channel.

"Lady Donegal and Miss D. returned to town for the winter on Saturday. Their last six months have been spent at Tunbridge. I was with them there for a fortnight. The Marchioness of Douglas (Miss Beckford) is still in or near town. The prince has heard her sing. He admired her song, but not her beauty. Methuen has published his poems and taken a wife. I lamented exceedingly, last spring, that an illness which confined me for many weeks prevented my seeing J. Atkinson. I called a few days after he had left town. Spencer goes on as before, dividing his time between Gilwell and Chiswick, and now and then taking a breakfast at Somerset House. As for myself, I jog on as usual, mixing rather less with the world and writing less than ever. I sometimes think that I have lost the faculty of making verses, good or bad; but when you return, perhaps I may try again. Campbell lives at Sydenham, writing for the booksellers, and anything, I believe, but poetry. The Lake people seemed to be completely silenced by the broadsides of the 'Edinburgh Review.' Jeffrey has been lately in town, though I missed him. In his way hither he stopped at Keswick, and saw Southey and Coleridge. He seems to have been dazzled by the rhetoric of Coleridge, whom he had never seen before. W. Scott has made 10,000*l.* by his poem!* and will, I dare say, double the sum. Will not you rejoice to hear that the Tunbridge waters have almost restored Lady D. to her old health and spirits?—at least so I concluded

* The Lady of the Lake.

from her last. What changes you will find on your return to England! Some dead, some married, some rich, some poor, some with new titles, some, alas! with new faces, and some—no less a wonder than the rest—just the same as you left them! Among the last, my dear Moore, I flatter myself you will find, though now and then a little angry with you,

“Your very sincere friend,

“SAMUEL ROGERS.”

To James Corry, Esq.

“June 4, 1811.

“My dear Corry,

“You have every reason to be very angry with me—but I really have such an unconquerable aversion to writing letters, that I have often thought Captain Brady’s resolution not to answer anything but a *challenge* was the most peaceable way of getting through life. But I feel myself particularly reprehensible in not attending to *your* letter; not only because it was the most agreeable I have received since I left Dublin, but because it was so good-natured of you to write to me *at all*, after my ‘angel visits, few and far between,’ to Lurgan Street. However *you* may forgive me, I can by no means be so lenient to myself for having *seemed* (for it was only seeming) so insensible to the many repeated kindnesses I have experienced from you and Mrs. Corry; but distractions of various kinds beset me in cities, and it somehow happens that those I love best come off worst with me. I rather think you will understand what I mean; and indeed you and Mrs. Corry show that you *feel* what I mean, by continuing your kindness to me through all chances and changes, through all my neglects and aberrations. I have not yet had a *business* day with Power, which means that we have not yet *got drunk* together; but he is good enough to be one of my allies next Monday, when I take the chair at a dinner of the gentlemen educated at Dublin College. I wish, with all my heart, that *you* could pop your *nose* in amongst us. Beecher has the misfortune to be *English*-bred, and so cannot be with us.

“With respect to the opening lines of the Prologue for Kilkenny, I am afraid you must

fill up the *hiatus* with stars, for, poor as they were, I have robbed them of their only trinkets for a song in the next number of the *Melodies*; therefore you must give it only as a fragment, and say ‘*Cætera desunt*,’ the rest is *not decent*, or some such cause.

“Pray do not translate any of my Latin for Mrs. Corry, but give her, in plain English, my warmest remembrances, and tell her it gave me sincere pain to hear of her illness; but that I strongly hope I shall see her here with all her good looks and (may I say?) kind smiles in summer.

“Ever yours, my dearest Corry,

“THOMAS MOORE.

“You see I have presumed upon your privilege to enclose a letter, which you will oblige me by sending as soon as possible.”

To Miss Godfrey.

“Dublin, Sept. 11, 1811.

“My unfortunate opera* was at last launched the night before last; and though the actors expected so much from it, I doubt whether it will turn out at all so attractive as they supposed. I have not seen it myself yet; but last night I am told it went off without the slightest opposition, and to-night I dare say I may venture, without danger to my nerves, to go and see it. I knew all along that I was writing down to the mob, but that was what they told me I must do. I however mingled here and there a few touches of less earthly mould, which I thought would in some degree atone for my abasement. I am afraid, however, I have failed in both: what I have written up to myself is, they say, over-refined and unintelligible; what I have written *down* to *them* is called vulgar. I have therefore made a final resolution never to let another line of mine be spoken upon the stage, as neither my talents nor my nerves are at all suited to it. I must tell you, at the same time, that the piece has (what the actors call) *succeeded*, the second night having been fully attended and unanimous in applause. Most of the paper critics too have been friendly; the ‘*Times*’ making a most formidable exception. The article in that paper yesterday was really a brain-blow, from the style in which it was

* M. P. or the Blue Stocking.

written and the candour with which it affected to praise me in other departments of literature: they however made a most ridiculous and unaccountable mistake in accusing me of royalism and courtiership, when the fact is, the piece was dreaded by us all as dangerous from the opposite quality, and I had a long struggle with licenser for the retention of several most ticklish passages about bribery. The worst of it is, that I fear Arnold means to trick me out of all but the first advance that he made me in the spring; this is too bad. However, you shall know more when I have ascertained his intentions.

"I shall now take to my poem, and do something, I hope, that will place me above the vulgar herd both of worldlings and of critics; but you shall hear from me again, when I get among the maids of Cashmere, the sparkling springs of Rochabad, and the fragrant banquets of the Peris. How much sweeter employments these than the vile joke-making I have been at these two months past!

"Best love to dear Lady Donegal from hers and yours ever,

"THOMAS MOORE."

From Samuel Rogers, Esq.

"Aberystwith, Sept. 19, 1811.

"My dear Moore,

"Many, many thanks for your very kind letters. I was indeed very anxious; but you have removed all my fears, and I wish you joy from my heart. If you had escaped, I should have felt some alarm. When bowmen and riflemen erect butts to shoot at, we, who are butts ready-made, must not expect to escape; and though the arrows are poisoned, it is our own fault if they raze the skin. To succeed is no little crime in the eyes of those who fail; and those who cannot climb will endeavour to pull you down by the skirts. The only thing that surprised me was your account of Arnold's terms. Had you no conception of them till it was too late? With regard to publishing, you are the best judge. If the dialogue is murdered on the stage, should not it do itself justice in the closet? But consult your own feelings, and you will be sure to act right. Only, if you publish, would not Longman be the best man to deal with?

"Your little history of your own and X's feelings on the occasion interested me much; but, thanks be to Heaven, all is over, and you are both alive and well. The music, I have no doubt, will amply repay you, and I hope, extricate you completely from C's clutches. I shall be delighted to hear that you are worshipping fire and committing every extravagance in those regions of the sun.

"In a fortnight I hope to see you, and hear what, I am sure, you calumniate most vilely. Here I am just now on the sea-shore, and though nothing but Welsh is talked under the window, I live on very comfortably. Last week I made a little excursion into North Wales, and travelled round Snowdon, who revealed himself in great pomp on the occasion. My ears are still full of Welsh harps and mountain torrents.

"Ever yours,

"SAMUEL ROGERS.

"I slept at night at Wm. Madocks's. He is a great lord in his little city of Tre-Madoc, —has built a church and a market-place, and a town-hall, and a square, and a street, where the sea roared a year or two ago; and this week holds an Tysteddord or Meeting of Bards. The comet is very brilliant here, and every evening makes a brilliant path across the water."

From Samuel Rogers, Esq.

"Aberystwith, Sept. 20, 1811.

"My dear Moore,

"You know me and my faults too well to be much surprised at my long silence; and now (forgive me for my selfishness) I am not sure I should have written at all, but to make you write, and tell me something about yourself, &c. What have you done? Is the dramatic concluded and the epic begun? Are you now in a pavilion on the banks of the Tigris? or, in the shape of a nightingale, singing love songs to a Rose in the gardens of Cashmere? As for me, I have been visiting an elder brother, who, many years ago, retired from the world, to cultivate his own patrimonial fields and read his Homer under the shade of his own beech-trees near Hagley. His farm is beautiful, very woody and uneven, and full of little dingles and copses and running waters. A green lane, a mile

long, leads to the house, which overlooks the fields. The prospect, enlivened with a few cottages, is bounded by a chain of hills, which affect almost to be mountains; and beyond these appear, every now and then, over their heads, such as are fully entitled to the name, and as blue as a blue atmosphere can make them. From one circumstance or another, it is now some years since I came there: his girls, now very lovely, are nearly grown up, and I am half tempted to get up every time they come into the room. It makes me feel very old, and very melancholy too sometimes. I think of the time when they used to sit on my knee and tease me to tell them stories of the world they were about to enter into. The other day it was proposed to dine in a wood; and I was surprised, when I came, to find everything set out there in a hermitage. The tables, the chairs, napkins, knives, and canteens all carried on their heads and under their arms; not a servant assisted. How little, said I to myself, when I saw them smiling over their work, would the fine ladies in town be inclined to think of such a thing! But we are now all transported to a very different scene,—a bleak, mountainous seashore in Wales. How long I shall remain here I cannot say,—probably a month; so pray write me a line in the course of a fortnight at least. Rebuke me by setting me a better example. I have received a letter from Mrs. Grattan, and as I am writing a line to her and Lady D., shall inclose both under cover to G. My book, I fear, is at a standstill. I have written but a very few lines, and those of no moment. Some time or other you shall see them. I hope to be in town in about five weeks.

“Ever yours,

“SAMUEL ROGERS.

“I am very anxious about your proceedings with Arnold, and am continually looking out for an opera. Have you given it a name?

“My sister desires to be very kindly remembered to you.”

To James Corry, Esq.

“Thursday, Oct. 24, 1811.

“My dear Corry,

“Now for it—I am quite ready for you—proof sheets—play bills—I’ll dash through

all with you. Seriously, my dear fellow, though not altogether *désauvré*, yet I am just now in want of an interposing relief to more serious studies, and I know of nothing better for the purpose than our Kilkenny undertaking; so don’t spare me, but as many tons burden as your franks are allowed to carry, freight away without any remorse,—the linen trade will be all the better for it.

“You perceive I have been qualifying myself still further for the task by putting on the sock in *writing* as well as *acting*, but I am sorry to say I feel it rather *slipshod* on me. You will see a resurrection (when you read me) of many jokes that were tolerable in *their lifetime*, but which wear rather ‘a *ghastly smile*’ in their present cold-blooded reappearance. One of those *revenans* you will recognise as having once given some signs of life in a letter to *you*; but there are many of them which not all the efforts of the Humane Society (and the audiences are very much of this description) could warm back into any respectable state of animation.

“I wish you would tell Dalton that, tolerant as I am (from sympathy) of those who will not write letters to their friends, yet (like Mr. Perceval, &c.) there is a certain point at which my toleration stops; and Dalton is degenerating into such very licentious silence, that, with all my liberality upon the subject, I must say that he abuses his privilege.

“There is no news that you’d care to hear of, except that the Prince is to have a villa upon Primrose Hill, connected by a fine street with Carlton House, and is so pleased with this magnificent plan, that he has been heard to say ‘it will quite eclipse Napoleon.’ It is feared, too, that Mr. Perceval, by *this and other ‘primrose paths of dalliance,’* is finding his way very fast to the Regent’s heart.

“When you write, or rather when you *research*, do not forget that some little *biographical traits* of our brotherhood would form a very useful feature of your investigation.

“Ever most truly yours,

“THOMAS MOORE.”

From Samuel Rogers, Esq.

“Holland House, Friday Morning, Nov. 1811.

“My dear Moore,

“I am very happy indeed to think that an

affair conducted in a manner so honourable to both parties has terminated so pleasantly,* though I cannot but think you have been a little reserved to me on the occasion. We have long admired Lord Byron as a writer. His manliness and candour in this correspondence must now excite our esteem for him as a man; and if I can, by introducing myself as a peacemaker where indeed there is nothing but peace already, acquire the honour of his acquaintance, I shall think myself very fortunate, and greatly obliged to you.

"If I might, I would leave my name at his door; but perhaps you can negotiate the business for me; and I cannot say how happy I shall be if his Lordship will do me the honour to dine with me in St. James's Place. Any day but to-morrow will suit me perfectly.

"Ever yours,

"SAMUEL ROGERS.

"Thomas Moore, Esq."

To James Corry, Esq.

"Wednesday, Nov. 4, 1811.

"My dear Corry,

"I have only time at this moment to thank you for all your communications, great and small, and to tell you that I have sent the covers of your *packets* to Sir Francis Burdett, that he may make a speech about them at the opening of Parliament. I suppose you have heard that during the Talents' administration Windham received an express from Lord Grey, which made a great sensation in every town it passed through, but which turned out (upon opening the gilt despatch-box) to be the *annonce* of a battle between Gulley and Gregson, sent by the Foreign Secretary to the War Secretary 'upon public service.' I thought of this when I received your Linen Board enclosures. What an enormous book you mean to make of it! *μεγα βιβλιον μεγα κακον*. A great book is a great evil. (N. B., writing Greek when a man is in a hurry!) Seriously, I fear we must either reject much of the printed materials, or considerably diminish the scale upon which it is executed. Such a heavy book upon such a light subject would be quite an anomaly. Think what can be done to reduce its corpulence; for really it rather terrifies my little muse to be wedded to such a Mr. Lam-

* In allusion to the hostile correspondence between Moore and Byron.

bert of a book as it must necessarily be when preface, plates, &c., are added to its present bulk. I find I have only time now to throw out these hints; but I shall write more fully in a day or two.

"Your kindness in thinking of my interests gives me the sincerest pleasure and gratitude. What you and Dalton were talking of (an author's night) would be not only serviceable, but flattering to me; and I should like to be *surprised* with such a favour exceedingly. As you have been good enough to ask how you can serve me, the following quere will show that I take you at your word: What are the *longest dates* at which you could get *two bills* upon *Power* in *Dublin* cashed for me, being for the sum of one hundred pounds each? I wish to know this immediately (though I ought to have prefaced it with another question, which is, whether you would get them cashed for me at *any* date). I want the money for the approaching Christmas, and he has this sum at my disposal, but wants as long a shot for paying his bills as Acres did for killing his man. So pray, without mentioning the circumstance to any one, let me know what you can do without inconveniencing yourself, and believe me to be,

"Most hastily, but as *sure* as if I were *slow*,

"Yours,

"T. MOORE."

To James Corry, Esq.

"Friday, December 13, 1811.

"My dear Corry,

"Many thanks for your kindness in offering so promptly to *translate* my English into *Spanish*, 'cum *notis*,' &c., &c. The sooner the *version* is done, the better; I enclose the *original*.

"Though *Power* is of such *longue haleine* in the bill way, I think the number of resting-places you offer him cannot but satisfy him.

"Give my very best remembrances to Mrs. Corry; and tell her, though given in a letter upon money-matters, they have not a tinge of *the dross* about them.

"I shall keep my *dramatics* for another letter.

"Ever yours, in haste,

"THOMAS MOORE.

"Send the enclosed letter to *Power*. By-

the-bye, I forgot to ask whether your powers of *import* (in the *franking* way) are as unlimited as your *export* privileges; because a friend of mine has a *young child* he wants to *frank over*."

From Samuel Rogers, Esq.

"Keswick, 1812.

"My dear Moore,

"Many thanks for your kind letters, and your indulgent reception of my mountain verses, which you could not expect to find so smooth and polished as if they had come from the South. I am rejoiced to hear that you found the madonna and child alive after so long an absence; and hope from my heart that the first is recovering. You do me a little injustice when you think I did not continue in my former sentiments; but I believe on second thoughts you were right, for I can assure you I think better and better of the person you mentioned; and the account I wrote to my brother and sister has given them no small interest in her welfare. On the shores of Windermere I found Sir James Mackintosh, who was indeed the first to recommend Little's Poems to my serious perusal. I found him again at Keswick; and my Journal, could I send it to you, would be a tissue of voyagings and clamberings, and hair-breadth escapes. In two or three days I shall remove to Lowther. * * * I have nothing to add but a few *craggy* lines; and, indeed, to get your opinion of them is one great reason for my inflicting on your patience this unprofitable and expensive epistle. The first eight will stand as you tolerated them.

"Oh, I was there, one of that gallant crew; *
And saw, and wonder'd whence his power He drew;
Nor then of his great Adversaries knew,
Then uninstructed,—But my sand is run,
And the night coming . . . and my task not done!

"You will remember that my monk is in *articulo mortis*, and may, therefore, when thinking of his situation, be allowed to stammer a little. By the night, I mean that 'in which no man can work.' I thought these lines would serve pretty well to introduce their excellencies, the Devils, in the third Canto; and as Sharp and Wordsworth particularly like the last couplet, I have, though I don't quite like it, retained it, not finding a better.

* "Voyage of Columbus," canto iii.

This change of person, from your humble servant to the monk, will, I think, render the poem a little more dramatic, and occasion the following alterations:

"Canto I.—Sung ere his coming, and by Heav'n designed.

"Canto VI., last page.—At length among *us* came an unknown Voice!

"Canto VIII., second page.—Slowly to land the sacred cross *we* bore.

"Canto X.—Who now danc'd forth to strew *His* path with flowers,

And hymn *His* welcome, &c.

"'Then uninstructed' is a pause I rather like; 'my task not done' is, I will confess, not in my manner, though, I think, rather Miltonic, and such as would please me in blank verse. I am afraid I should have written, 'ere my task is done.' But those critics are so decided against me. I have knocked under.

"I am delighted to hear that your Muse is not daunted by the discouragement she thought she met with. I can assure you I am as much in love with her as I can be with a lady without flesh and blood. Pray remember me very affectionately to the two ladies of your house, and believe me to be,

"Ever yours, most truly,

"SAMUEL ROGERS."

To his Mother.

"Friday, 1812.

"My dearest Mother,

"I am very anxious indeed at not hearing from home. You were ill when Ellen wrote last, and our dear Kate was on the eve of her trouble; on both of which accounts I am very solicitous about hearing from you. Bessy is getting, I think, a good deal better, and very much, I believe, by the means of milk and chocolate. I know milk does not agree with you, darling Mother; but I should suppose *chocolate* would, and it is very strengthening.

"Did you see the account of the 'Religious Liberty' Dinner at Kilkenny, where they gave 'Thomas Moore, and the Union of Patriotism and Poetry?' They so seldom do me justice in Ireland, that I rather suspect I was indebted to a man from London, who was there, for this compliment.

"Make Ellen write immediately, with full particulars both about yourself and Kate; and believe me, my dearest Mother,

"Ever your own,

"Tom."

To his Mother.

"Tuesday, 1812.

"My dearest Mother,

"I went and dined at the Park yesterday. Lord Moira seems to think that this late victory, instead of confirming the Ministers in their seats will rather undermine them by tending to *increase* the power of Lord Wellesley, who goes hand in hand with *him*; but I fear he is too sanguine. He has set about *retrenching* at last most manfully, and has dismissed no less than *twenty servants*. There is no doubt but in a few years this system will set him on his legs again.

"I am going to dine with the Stories of Lockington. They offered to send their carriage for Bessy if she would come; but her back gets so weak and painful after dinner, that it is uncomfortable to her to go into society.

"I am beginning to be anxious about a letter from home, and hope, my darling Mother, that you have no returns of your summer illness. Yesterday and to-day are, at last, *true warm* summer with us.

"Ever your own,

"Tom."

To Miss Dalby.

"Oakhanger, Wednesday, 1812.

"My dear Mary,

"I arrived here the latter end of last week, and immediately set out upon a *cottage hunt* to Wales, 'the cheapest country in England!' How much people are deceived at a distance! —its cheapness is all a flim-flam, and nothing remains as it used to be, but its glorious scenery.

"We are now packing up to retrace our old steps home toward Derbyshire, &c. &c., and if we are not stopped short by some pretty resting-place near Ashbourn, you may perhaps see us back among the Kegworthies once more. At all events, I think, we shall be very near you.

* * * *

"I wrote this, by command of Bessy, who is buried in trunks, packing-cases, &c. I fear she has been a sad truant in the way of letter-writing since I left her.

"Ever yours,

T. MOORE."

To his Mother.

"Kegworth, 1812.

"My dearest Mother,

"Lord Moira is appointed Governor-General of India, and he and Lady Loudoun, with the three eldest children, are to sail in January next. I cannot possibly tell at present what effect this very important event will have on my destinies, but it appears to me the worst way in the world that he could be provided for for my interests, though the only way by which *his own* could be served in the present state of politics, and the ruined condition of his finances. What he will propose to me I cannot imagine, but they are coming down here in a fortnight, and then I shall know all. I wrote a letter from Cheslyn's to you by Friday's post, and I hope you received it; it was to say that my dearest Father might depend upon my assisting him through his December difficulties. I only want to know the sum he will require, and the time.

"We passed five days at the High Sheriff's very gaily, eating turtle, playing, singing, and dancing.

"I am quite in a fidget about Lord Moira's intentions, and shall be till I see him.

"Ever my darling Mother,

"Your own

"Tom."

"I hope soon to hear that dear Kate is well over her crisis."

From James Corry, Esq.

"Lurgan Street, May 16, 1812.

"My dearest Moore,

"I received your letter the day before yesterday, and have been till this hour so much occupied in bustling through the arrear of business that had accumulated in my absence, as to be unable to devote an earlier hour to the duties of friendship. Other men may talk of *their* papers, but *mine* presented such a heap, that had they taken a frolic in *their head* to make an attack upon *my own*, another great man would have been lost to the country.

"I participate most fully and most warmly in *almost* all the feelings which seem to have had possession of you while writing your last letter. I say *almost* all your feelings, for I

will not pain you in thinking that either your *honour* or your *happiness* were, or can ever be, in danger. No, my friend; you have done too much to advance and establish *both* to have any fears about *either*; and unless you be the most severe and unreasonable observer of yourself, you must ever have in your own heart a rich and most abundant source of happy, enviable, honourable feeling. *Macte tuâ virtute.*

"I have seen nothing yet of the bill, but don't make yourself uneasy about the provision for it; above all, my dear friend, consider that this bill is only to get quit of a debt, which you very properly would not suffer to remain due to a cold and taunting creditor, the language of whose *condescending acquiescence* in your request is infinitely more insulting than he could have possibly rendered a *refusal*; whereas, my proposition to you was to make me your banker, when you wanted money in *advance*, instead of unprofitably anticipating the fruits of your talents among these *tradesmen*. But let us not be too angry with your correspondent: the magnitude of an offence is only to be measured by its *motive*, and this man, perhaps, instead of *thinking* that his letter was calculated to offend you, *thought*, perhaps, he was writing a kind one; so let it pass. Some one told me that *Carpenter* was considered among the literary men not to be very liberal in money matters, which made me glad that you had formed another connection with one who was thought to be more *friendly*. But 'call you this backing your friends?' I could have wished that your *musical* publisher (if Power's personal kindness had not naturally attached you to him) were a man of more extensive dealing. I may be very hard to please, but the spring of my fastidiousness is a desire to see your talents a source of the greatest profit as well as honour to you, and to see them, too, introduced into the world under the best possible advantages.

"It occurs to me that I could render your future drafts on me most acceptable in England, by opening some correspondence (through La Souche's bank) with a London house, where I could make them payable. If this be necessary, tell me. If you shall have occasion, as I trust you will, to write to me about

our book, or Carden, or politics, or what will be infinitely more acceptable to me, about Mrs. Moore or yourself, don't say anything about money in your letters, but put that subject into a separate bit of paper; for the interest which your friends here take in everything that happens to you would make them anxious to hear this and see that, and there is no third person in the world has any right to know anything of our private arrangements. By the by, our dear friend Richard Power and I had much conversation on our journey home about you; and in every word he said his friendship was apparent. I thought I saw an anxiety in him to open a conversation with me about our both speaking to you, in the honest freedom of friendship, upon this same cursed subject of money,—this '*bane* and *antidote*.' But my own feelings taught me (long before I received your instructions to that effect) the necessity of preserving what we had said to each other *sub mille rosis*, even from him; and I only mention the circumstance now to prevent your thinking *my* attachment to you capable of *any* extent, to which *his own* love for you would not lead him.

"We are all looking upon each other here in speechless and horrible surprise at the late occurrence in London. The *private* virtues of the late Mr. Perceval will insure to his memory the most lively and sincere respect, even among those who most condemned his measures.

"Mrs. Corry entreats that Mrs. Moore will accept the assurance of her warmest respect; and she unites with me, my dear friend, in wishing you both many years of health and happiness.

"JAMES CORRY.

"P.S.—The letter is inclosed."

To James Corry, Esq.

"Kegworth, Leicestershire, Friday, May 19, 1812.

"My dear Corry,

"We have at last got down to our country retreat, where I have no doubt of surmounting all my difficulties. If we had staid much longer in town, the curiosity to see 'Moore's wife,' combining with the kindness of my friends, would have ruined us. She was asked to the three most splendid assemblies in London, and Lady Lansdowne's disappointment

at her not going to hers was quite diverting. I know all this will give you pleasure, my dearest Corry. What are we to expect next after the late horrors in London? Some change may take place in politics now, but I build no longer upon such phantasies. Ever yours, with best regards,

"T. MOORE."

"Mr. Corry."

To William Gardiner, Esq.

"Kegworth, June 24, 1812.

"Dear Sir,

"The more you do me the honour of *valuing* the assistance you expect from me, the more I lament my thoughtlessness in offering it; for I ought to have recollected (when Miss Dalby told me that you wished some verses of mine) that I am no longer a free agent in the disposal of my writings,—at least of those *connected with music*,—having giving, by a regular deed, the *monopoly* of all such productions of mine to the Messrs. *Powers* of London and Dublin. These legal trammels were so new to my muse, that she has more than once forgotten herself, and been near wandering into infidelity, very much, I assure you, from the habit of setting no price upon her favours; but I think you will agree with me that it is worth while keeping her within bounds, when I tell you that the reward of her constancy is no less than *five hundred* a year during the time stipulated in the deed. For not complying with your request I need offer no better apology; but for inconsiderately promising what I could not perform I know not what I can say to excuse myself, except that (and believe me I speak sincerely) the strong wish I felt to show my sense of your merits made me consult my *inclination* rather than my *power*; and it was not till I had actually begun words to one of your airs that I recollected the *faux pas* I was about to commit.

"I thank you very much for the sermons*, which I am reading with great pleasure, and I beg you to believe me, very sincerely yours,

"THOMAS MOORE."

To James Corry, Esq.

"Monday, June 29, 1812.

"My dear Corry,

"I have waited for your *post-liminius* let-

* Sermons by Robert Hall.

ter till I am out of patience, and though I doubt whether this will catch you in Dublin, yet it shall take its chance; and the first thing I feel impatient to express is my very sincere sorrow at the account which you give me of Mrs. Corry's health. I was not a little glad to hear, however, that Cheltenham was recommended to her, as it gives us some faint chance of seeing you both in our humble mansion at Kegworth. Pray bring her. I think it would do her good to see us so happy; and Bessy shall be her handmaid and nurse, and smile her into health again.

"I am afraid your plan of a short season at Kilkenny will not do. So few of your *staunch sitters-out* will think it worth while to go for that short period; and, then, it is too narrow a mark also for your *chance* visitors to hit; when they had the space of three weeks they were sure to make some part of it convenient to them, the least intervention of business now will make them give it up as hopeless; however, you may try, it will add a few pages more to my book, and if I have to record a failure (*quod Deus avertet!*) it will produce a *variety* which I did not expect.

"Politics are, as you say, going to the Devil. I don't know what to make of my friend Lord Moira's conduct. A sword when put into the water will look crooked, and the weak medium of Carlton House may produce an *appearance of obliquity* even in Lord M—. But both the sword and he, I trust, are as bright and straight as ever. God bless you.

"Ever yours,"

"T. MOORE.

From Samuel Rogers, Esq.

"July 3, 1812.

"My dear Moore,

"Your letters, as full of happiness as kindness, give me great pleasure. I received your last when I was sitting here after dinner in a quartette with Jekyil, Lord Byron, and Sir George Beaumont. Oh! that she and yourself could have made the four six. But somehow or other I would rather have you both to myself under a green hedge, or by a brookside, where one might talk nonsense, and such nonsense as one likes best. Pray tell her I would not deprive her of her amusement for the world—only tell her she must not be

too happy at it. I myself mean to figure as an angler, sooner or later, though I dislike the definition not a little,—a rod with a worm at one end, and a fool at the other. Your couplet is sanctified by high authority—Eloisa to Abelard—and is not only pardonable, but most beautiful! As for me, I am just finishing the out-set of Columbus; in a few days he and I are to be on the great ocean. Tomorrow night I shall be tossed literally in a mail coach to Glasgow. So pray, pray for me. I hope to visit the Dumfries, and look at the Scotch mountains, from the highest of which I shall pen an epistle to you, my dear Moore. Lord Byron was to have gone part of the way with me, but, alas, his occupations are very different just now. Last night I opened the street door to a knock, between 12 and 1, the servants being in bed. It was a message from him, to offer to take me to a masquerade. Lord Moira, in the kindest manner, had asked me to Donnington, and I had accepted it,—my motive I need not mention to you; but Knight, with whom I am to travel in the north, is now on the road to Glasgow, and I have no alternative but to fly.

“Ever yours,
“SAMUEL ROGERS.

“Here I am still, my dear Moore, and last night I heard Lady Hamilton sing ‘Friend of my Soul,’ and ‘Go where Glory,’ to the Regent. He asked ‘whose the last was,’ and she answered, ‘Moore’s,’ breaking out into a eulogy on the ‘Irish Melodies.’ Well, now I have changed my plans. You may thank yourself for it, for you are the cause. On Saturday I leave town, and on Sunday evening I hope to raise the dust at Kegworth, and raise a dish of tea (remember I eat no suppers). So pray provide a bed for me at the inn, or under your own roof, as may be most convenient. I mean to stay six and thirty hours with you, my dear Moore, and I must, I suppose, make my bow at Donnington. Pray go with me there.

“Lord Byron complains bitterly of your silence to him.”

To Lady Donegal.

“Kegworth, 1812.

“I went over and dined with the Moiras

yesterday, and saw poor Lord M. in his Star and Garter, which he sat down to dinner in, with a couple of parsons and myself, to celebrate the Prince’s birthday! They leave this, I believe, next week, and it is a fine thing to see at last the manly resignation with which he is disbanding whole regiments of servants and horses, and reducing his expenditure to a scale which can hardly exceed two or three thousand a year. I feel most deeply interested about him; and both he and she have given me new cause for the warmest gratitude by their kind attentions to Bessy. Rogers and I had a very pleasant tour of it, though I felt throughout it all, as I always feel with him, that the fear of *losing* his good opinion almost embitters the *possession* of it, and that though, in his society, one *walks upon roses*, it is with constant apprehension of the *thorns* that are among them.

* * * * *

He left me rather out of conceit with my poem, ‘Lalla Rookh’ (as his fastidious criticism generally does), and I have returned to it with rather an humbled spirit; but I have already once altered my whole plan to please him, and I will do so no more, for I should make as long a voyage of it as his own ‘Columbus’ if I attended to all his objections. His *general* opinion, however, of what I have done is very flattering; he only finds fault with *every part* of it in detail; and this you know is the style of his criticism of characters—‘an *excellent* person, but——’

“I find my hour draws near, and I have talked so much of Rogers that I have only time to say I hope Tunbridge has made you both as stout as in our best days of Tunbridge happiness.

“Best love to dear Mary, and believe me,
“Ever yours,
“T. MOORE.”

From Samuel Rogers, Esq.

“Thursday, Aug. 5, 1812.

“My dear Moore,

“I hope you came safe to your own door on the wings of the wind, and found B. and N. well and happy. Pray remember me kindly to both, as well as to the Magpie, and tell me how the first is. As for me, I set off at twelve in a stage, with an old man in a night-cap,—slept four hours at Manchester in

a horrible inn, and proceeded at one in the morning by the mail to Kendal and Windermere Lake, where I now am among mountains. Here are Sharp, and Wordsworth, and Mackintosh, who desire to be remembered to you. I have had little leisure, but here are the verses, as I threatened. Pray give me your opinion *forthwith* in a *day or two*, directing to me under cover, to Richard Sharp, Esq., Low Wood Inn, near Kendal, Cumberland.

"In a week I shall go to Keswick, where I hope to see Southey, and remember you to him. I will write again. All you have done, and all you think of doing, rises every hour in my mind.

CANTO III.

AN ASSEMBLY OF EVIL SPIRITS.

Tho' chang'd my cloth of gold for amice grey—
In my spring-time, when every month was May,
With hawk and hound I cours'd away the hour,
Or sung my roundelay in Lady's bower.
And though my world be now a narrow cell,*
(Renounc'd for ever all I love so well,)
Tho' now my head be bald, my feet be bare,
And scarce my knees sustain my book of prayer,
Oh! I was there—one of that gallant crew†—
Nor of His great, great adversaries knew,
Then uninstructed. But my sand is run—
And the night coming—and my task not done.

*Twas in the deep, immeasurable cave

VARIATIONS.

Oh! I was there among the gallant crew—
Nor his great Foe, his great Preserver knew,
Then uninstructed.

Nor then of his great adversaries knew—

my task undone
ere my task is done"

From Samuel Rogers, Esq.

"Keswick, Aug. 21, 1812.

"My dear Moore,

"I have now spent a week alone at this place, walking for the most part of the time in a place so wild and solitary and awful that I think you would have knelt in your devotions. It was among some old oaks in a crevice of the great mountain of Skiddaw, a cataract leaping with fury from rock to rock by my side. Only two little girls did I ever see there, and they stopped at the sight of me, and made me such long and low reverences, with looks so full of

awe, that I began to think myself the deity of the place.

"There it occurred that something was necessary at the beginning of the poem; and as you are now my Magnus Apollo, I must inflict my effusion, as before, upon you. I have two or three readings, and you must tell me your opinion, under cover to the Earl of Lonsdale, Lowther, near Penrith, where I hope to find an answer to my last *affliction* or *inflation*. Horner passing through Keswick, in his way to Edinburgh, I have procured a frank, so that I am now not drawing upon you for pelf as well as patience.

"By the way, it strikes me that introducing the pronouns 'us' and 'we,' as I suggested in my last, will clash with the lyrical style of the poem, and give the abruptness a pompous and unnatural air. Perhaps I had better compound by letting my monk only appear in these introductory passages. *Que pensez vous?*

"Pray forgive me, and pray give my love to the two ladies under your roof, though I have not quite forgiven them, the one for breaking her promise (of going to Matlock), and the other for being the cause of it.

"Yours ever,

"SAMUEL ROGERS.

"I am sorry I have no better paper, but my stock is exhausted, and the stationer of Keswick has shut up shop and gone to the sea for a little bathing.

"Say, who first passed the portals of the West,
And the great Secret of the Deep possess'd?
Who first the standard of His Faith unfurl'd
On the dread confines of an unknown world?
Sung ere his coming—and by Heav'n design'd
To lift the veil that cover'd half mankind.
Oh! I would tell of Him!—My hour draws near—
And He will prompt me when I faint with fear.
—Alas! He hears me not! He cannot hear!

VARIATIONS.

Him would I now invoke! My hour draws near—
And he will strengthen me when faint with fear."

From Lady Donegal.

"Tunbridge Wells, August 28, 1812.

"I can never sufficiently admire the reformation that something has wrought in you; for, instead of scolding and reproaching you for never writing to us, I have to make my excuses, as well as I can, for having let two letters of yours remain so long unanswered. Bessy, I conclude, is the reformer, and good

* Many of the first discoverers ended their lives in a cloister. See Bernal Diaz, and other contemporary writers
† "Voyage of Columbus."

luck to her in the undertaking. Your description of Rogers is too like him. How vexatious it is that a man who has so much the power of pleasing and attaching people to him should mar the gifts of nature so entirely by giving way to that sickly and discontented turn of mind, which makes him dissatisfied with every thing, and disappointed in all his views of life. Yet he can feel for others; and, notwithstanding this unfortunate habit he has given himself of dwelling upon the faults and follies of his friends, he really can feel attachment; and to you I am certain he is attached, though I acknowledge that the thorns sometimes make one wish to throw away the roses, and forego the pleasures to avoid the pain. But with all his faults I like him, though I know he spares me no more than any of his other dear friends. I feel great compassion for Lord Moira, yet wonder how he could ever have expected any thing from the Prince but what he has met with from him, for he knew him; and, in knowing him, how could he hope any good from such a head and heart? He was, however, so gracious as to ask me a second time to Carlton House, though he was not so gracious as to speak to me when he saw me there; this, however, for particular reasons must rest *entre nous*. We staid in London till the 17th of August, when the workmen turned us out of the house; for we are making great alterations, and I grieve to say that you will hardly know your old haunts again. The house is to be painted and papered from head to foot, and the old crimson couch is to change its colour. So you must come to town this winter, or you can no longer see us in your mind's eye; and I would not give a fig for a friend, or a poet, who could rest satisfied with mere imagination. But I am afraid you are both so horribly comfortable, and so much pleased with the country and with each other, that our chance of seeing you is but small. On our first arrival here we had all sorts of disasters. We have, however, got the better of them by degrees, and we are comfortably settled in a bow-window house on the top of Mount Zion, where we lead quiet sober lives, and scandalise our neighbours by our early hours. The knowing ones say, with a significant look, that 'people do not go to bed at ten o'clock for nothing.' And they are right, for we walk ourselves off our legs all day, and

are very glad to go to sleep as early as we can at night. The pantiles were put into an uproar last Tuesday by the arrival of the Princess of Wales on a visit to the Berrys. She brought Lady C. Campbell and Mrs. and Miss Rawdon with her, but not a man did she bring, or could she get here for love or money, except Sir Philip Francis and old Berry, who, egad, liked the fun of gallanting her about, and enjoyed himself more than the fair daughters did, who were in a grand fuss, and were forsaken in their utmost need by Beaux their former suppers fed, and had to amuse her, as well as they could, with the assistance of a few women that she did not care about.

"Charles Moore is to come here next week, for our consolation. In the mean time there is not a soul in the place that we care about except the Berrys, and now and then thorns are to be met with in that quarter, too, but with them many amiable and friendly feelings. But I hardly know where one can turn without meeting with thorns, except to you; and this is no compliment, for it is what Mary and myself often say; and I think, if it were possible for us ever to feel disappointed in you, that we should hang our harp upon a tree, and sing the song of friendship no more.

"Now write to us soon, and tell us how you are both going on in this wicked world. You say that you are about something, and that Rogers has discouraged you with his ifs and his buts; but pray trust to your own judgment, and do not fine and refine your work away to please him. What is the subject? and when is it likely to see light? Mary's love, Philly's, and mine to you, and kindest remembrances to Psyche.

From Leigh Hunt, Esq.

"27 Portland Street, Oxford Road, Sept. 13, 1812.

"My dear Sir,

"I am sure you will pardon my delay in answering your very kind and acceptable letter, when I tell you that I have scarcely been able to put pen to paper, notwithstanding what my public duties forced from me occasionally. My disorder has been a bilious one, of a most annoying and hypochondriac description, so that for weeks together I suffered a kind of waking nightmare,—looking on life, at times, even with a sort of horror, though I knew very well all the while (and this made

it worse) that I had nothing to make me unhappy. If I had had a bad conscience to boot, or a sorry taste, or an irresistible appetite for cutlets and noyau, the prince might have concluded himself revenged; but I was not quite so far gone; though of such strange materials are we and our philosophy composed, that a potato or a glass of milk would cause me more trouble than all the princes and attorney-generals put together. However, I am now, thank Heaven, getting better and returning heartily to my books; and one of the first pleasures, which I hasten to seize, is to thank you for your inquiries, and return (if you will allow me) all the cordiality which suggested them.

"You gratify me much by liking my verses in the 'Reflector,' and infinitely more (highly as I value your praise) by ratifying, with your own mouth, the conclusions they had drawn from the character of your later poetry. In this world, where Providence appears to be at work with certain stubborn materials in order to extract eventual good out of evil—perhaps eventual perfection out of an original fatality of frailty—it is of the last importance that all those who can draw to them the delighted attention of their fellow-creatures should be on the best side of things; but I will not trouble you with metaphysics, or throw a sermonising air upon that cause, which you will so well know how to recommend with all its natural graces. I recognised your hand in the 'Insurrection of the Papers,' in the 'Plumassier,' too, and in several other little pieces since, if I am not mistaken, not excepting a parody of Horace the other day. In pieces like the last, the musical flow of the composition would betray you, even if you could get rid of your lightness of wit and felicity of adaptation. You rejoice me by the promise you have thrown out to the 'Examiner' on this head. During the vacation of Parliament, and in the absence of better original matter, I have been rummaging my portfolio myself, and shall have a succession of little effusions, poetical and otherwise, as well as the 'Chronicle;' so I give fair warning. This morning I have published an imitation of Catullus's 'Acme and Septimius,'* as a sort of *amende honorable* for a common-place parody which I made when a youngster; and next Sunday there will be an improved republication of a version

which I made of another delicious little thing of his, the 'Return Home to Sirmio.'* I choose these felicitous originals—whether I succeed in them or no—as studies of expression, having been over head and ears for some time in styles, and rhythms, and structures of verse, on account of a poem which I am now writing, and which, I hope, may possess a more serious claim on your approbation than anything which has hitherto had the good fortune to please you.

"But I am talking here most ungallantly of myself. Allow me sincerely to congratulate you on your marriage, the blessings of which state I have experienced and respected, without losing a jot of my proper feeling for what is amatory. I had heard of it before, as you guess; but I have so been in the habit, for years past, of hearing all sorts of reports, and finding them untrue, that I neither believed nor disbelieved it. I am contented to wait for these matters till the parties, who know most on the subject, choose to tell me themselves. However, since you have raised my curiosity, I hope you think yourself bound to satisfy it. I see so much heart in you (which has indeed encouraged me to use this freedom of language), that I am persuaded, the more I know of it, the more I shall wish to know. Pray offer my respects and good wishes to Mrs. Moore, and tell her that we shall look to her in future for a proper account of you in the literary world. To be a father must be a delight as great as it is new to you, if I can judge from what my own feelings were when my first was born; for you must no longer talk of my child, since I have two boys now instead of one. You say you can furnish a 'companion picture' for one of them, but can you furnish a wife? for you do not say whether it is a boy or girl, and this is a great oversight in matters of grave family communication. I envy your library, and should envy your rural retirement, were I not upon the look-out for some such place myself in the neighbourhood of Hampstead,—a spot of which I am particularly fond. Pray write to me when you have an hour to spare. Mrs. Hunt desires her best respects and congratulations, and she is quite as sincere on these occasions, as, dear sir, yours very truly,

"LEIGH HUNT."

* Carmen 45.

* Carmen 31.

From Samuel Rogers, Esq.

"Hamilton, Oct. 22, 1812.

"My dear Moore,

"Letters being once more free (would that all mankind were) I seize the first moment to beg you will accept as many thanks as there are miles between us at this moment for your ready compliance with my request, when I troubled you with my rhymes from Keswick vale. Your criticisms were as just as they were friendly, and like yourself; and, though from being obliged to do something I was led to venture in the face of your verdict in one instance, I shall not rest till I have satisfied you and myself too with something better.

"Poor Byron! what I hear and read of his prologue makes me very angry. Of such value is public favour! So a man is to be tried by a copy of verses thrown off perhaps at hazard, and *invitâ Minervâ*. The same injustice, probably, awaits 'Rokeby' if it proves a flash in the pan.

"I was rejoiced to hear you were again at work. I hope you are still so, and as happy as you can be in this world. Happy, indeed, you must be, circumstanced as you are. Pray remember me very affectionately to Psyche. She may say what she will, I must still love her, and I hope you, my dear Moore, will forgive me if I do. 'Tisn't my fault, but hers. My sister wants to know whether she is still as interesting as we all thought her in town. With regard to your verses, if you like them, you may rely upon it we shall, and I am very sure we shall. To tell you the truth, I had no conception that anybody in so short a time could have so imbued his mind with Eastern literature. Your garments could not have been more fragrant if you had just left a cinnamon grove.

"As for me, I have led a vagabond life since we parted, among lochs and mountains, tartan-plaids, and Erse-songs. Had I found Mary and her little court in Holy-Rood, and had I supped now and then with her and Rizzio in her little chamber there—any night but one—I could scarcely have been better pleased, for nowhere could I have been received with more kindness than in Scotland. I wrote a letter some time ago to Lady Donegal, but have had no answer; I will hope, however, she and her sister are well. I wait here a day or two in the expectation of seeing

Jeffrey, who is coming, as he says, on purpose to see me. He brings Dugald Stewart; and when they go I shall take my flight homewards. Farewell, my dearest Moore, and believe me to be, as ever, yours very affectionately,

"SAMUEL ROGERS.

"Poor Mrs. Pigou! There never was a finer mind, or a more feeling heart. No day has passed away since without my thinking of her."

To Lord Moira.

(Extract.)

"Kegworth, Nov. 4, 1812.

"My Lord,

"I had the pleasure of hearing of your lordship's appointment near a week ago from those friends in this neighbourhood to whom it was communicated; but I did not feel myself authorized to address you upon the subject till I had received the intelligence from those public sources through which it is now known to every one.

"Though I read the fate of Ireland in your government being withheld from her, and though I think her last, last hope is now leaving her, yet I cannot but congratulate your lordship on being removed to so honourable an appointment, far away from the contemplation of evils which you are not suffered to remedy or even alleviate.

"THOMAS MOORE.

"To the Earl of Moira."

From Lady Donegal.

"Tunbridge Wells, Dec. 3, 1812.

"I believe I ought not to rejoice on hearing that you are *not* going to India with Lord Moira. Yet I cannot, if I was to die for it, look grave upon the occasion. I should look much graver if I were to hear that you were packing and preparing for your departure; and as the newspapers say that you have been at Donnington lately. I wish you would *stir yourself*; and tell us if anything upon this subject passed between you and Lord M——, or if he means to negotiate any place for you at home, which he might do, and which would answer much better for you than any appointment he could give you in India, where the expenses are more than adequate to the pay; and you are such a thoughtless fellow, that, with all Bessy's preaching and praying, she would

never be able to keep you within bounds, where all was extravagance and profusion around you.

"I am, for all these reasons, quite sure that even a small place at home would be more desirable for you; and I do not think, exclusive of everything else, that you have health for the East Indies; and I am selfish enough not to be satisfied with *hearing* that my friends are happy, I must see it, and enjoy it with them. Now for all these wise and good reasons I sincerely hope to hear that you are not thinking of leaving England.

"Did you see Rogers when you were in Town? and is it true that he has at last published his 'Columbiad?' If he has, I hope it will be well received, and kindly treated by the reviewers; for I have a sneaking kindness for him, which gives me an interest in all his little affairs.

"The gallant gay Lothario of the day has been here also. He is now gone to attend his duty in Parliament and elsewhere, and his family remain here, as does Lady Wellington and her brothers; but we see nothing of them all, except in our walks, and live very quiet retired sort of lives, such as you would have thought dull enough once; but Bessy has taught you another story, and you now think that *home* is a very pretty place, and that one may pass one's time very agreeably there without the *turmoils* of a large society. Our kindest remembrances to Bessy. She will think us very free and easy for calling her so familiarly, but we cannot help it; and I have not time now to make speeches on the occasion. Both sisters beg to be affectionately remembered to you. Ever yours most truly and sincerely, &c.

"B. D."

From James Perry, Esq.

"Strand, Dec. 4, 1812.

"My dear Sir,

"I am, I must own, extremely surprised at the conduct of the noble Earl (Lord Moira); for I had concluded that his vanity, if not his feeling of necessity, would have led him to importune you to accompany him as his sheet anchor and his standard—as his security and his fame. Your judgment, I think, would have made you decline the invitation, but I

had no doubt that it would have been made. Console yourself with the reflection that it may be for the best: it will be for the best if it shall make you resolve to draw on the resources and energies of your own mind for treasure and renown. You have only to resolve to be rich, and you will be so. You see the taste is for poetry, and a work from your pen would be seized on at your own price. And, *en attendant*, I feel infinitely obliged to you for giving me leave to speak to you frankly on this topic. Nothing would give me more pleasure than to have your most cordial and assiduous aid in my paper in a conspicuous department; but that I am aware would not be suitable to your views nor agreeable to your taste. But in the way that you yourself suggest—your occasional contribution of whatever strikes you—will be most acceptable, and shall be held in the strictest confidence, as I do assure you I have hitherto kept your secret most inviolably; and I shall be happy to honour your drafts for 200*l.* a year as an inadequate recompense, but from the enormous expense of the disgusting, though necessary, reports of Parliamentary chattering, I am forced to limit myself to this offer. Of course I can hope only for your *égaremens de l'esprit*, for the fruits of idleness, the alternatives from severer thought. I am mortified at the idea of your having been suspected as the writer of any of the delectable effusions with which you favoured me; but I can answer for it that it is only surmise, and not information. If I had seen the same morsels in another paper, I should have drawn the same inference—for the delicacy of the *tournure*, the music of the versification, the fancy of the thoughts, could only be the offspring of your Muse. I do assure you that I have done everything that depended on me for concealment, and the secret of Junius has not been more closely kept than yours. By the by, you know I am under engagement for Lord Eldon's costume. Pray enable me to pay my debt.

"You think of coming nearer Town. I think from every consideration,—of society, of books, of the incitement of Town, as well as of economy,—it would be better. And if you resolve on it, pray honour Mrs. Perry and me with your company, by making Tavistock House your home in the interval of

your settlement. Make our best respects to Mrs. Moore, and believe me to be,

"My dear Sir,

"Most faithfully yours,

"J.A. PERRY.

"P. S. We have great news to-day. Bulletins stating that Bonaparte has suffered almost irreparable losses near Smolensko. I enclose the 'Sun.'

"I have got a frank through the messenger at the House of Commons, from a stranger to us both."

To James Corry, Esq.

"Monday, Dec. 30, 1812.

"My dear Corry,

"A right merry Christmas to you and yours! You have contributed not a little to enliven mine by the inclosure which accompanied your last letter amounting to 181*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.*, as well as I can recollect, for the sum is wonderfully '*mutatus ab illo*' since the day before yesterday.

"And now to return to our editorial labors, —first premising to you that you are the treasure of treasures in this line of industry, and that you would be worth any money to an *omne-editing* man like Walter Scott. Indeed, if the linen trade could spare you to literature (where you certainly would be much more at home), I think you and I together might set up such a book manufactory as would leave the Stephensens and Gronoviuses quite behind us. Never was anything so clear and convenient as the arrangement you have made of the paper for me. There are, however, two, I think, wanting (beside those which you marked down as deficient), and I have the memorandum of them among my papers, but not just at hand now, to tell them to you. I wish we could get rid of the prologues and epilogues altogether. I dare say there are not six lines '*nantes in gurgite vasto*' which are worth saving. I include my own in this denunciation, for they are both *very bad*, and I think it is much better to let our posterity *imagine* what sallies of wit and fancy must have been struck out during the Institution, than to embody such a mass of evidence against ourselves to the contrary. In my opinion a slight sketch of the progress of private theatricals in Ireland, a list of the company of Kilkenny for each season, with the plays acted, and the casts of the prin-

cipal characters; a series of portraits of those chiefly concerned, with brief notices of their talents, &c., would comprise all that could be in the least degree interesting, and would be a much more tasteful monument of our establishment than this poudorous load of play-bills, and this swarm of 'wounded snakes,' that, drag their slow lengths along' in the form of prologues and epilogues. This, however, is merely my opinion; it makes not the least difference in *my* part of the business, only that I feel I should be deficient in proper zeal for this undertaking if I did not both *think* of what would be *best*, and *tell* what I think fairly. At the same time I by no means expect that any one of you will agree with me; and indeed, as perhaps the feelings of some of our oldest members might be hurt by the sacrifice of so large a portion of the materials, I by no means press it. All, therefore, I shall suggest is, that as there *must* be a *canister* to the tail of the book, it ought to be of as *light construction*, and as little of a *trumpery canister* as possible. Selections, perhaps, might be made, and you would find me a true *Brutus* in this task, for my own children should be the first to go to the block. Talking of my own children, there is a very awkward error of the press in the answer to the Charitable Institutions which I wrote. I do not quite remember the words of the sentence, but it is something like 'whatever difficulties, &c. &c., by your co-operation we were enabled to surmount *them*,' where the word '*them*' is omitted, to the no small mutilation of the grammar and construction. I suppose the same error was in the Kilkenny paper.

"When you first mentioned the idea of 'an author's night,' I thought it was merely one of those momentary speculations which flash before one's eyes and vanish; but as you seem to be, with true friendly feeling, following up the intention, I think it but fair to tell you that I would by no means accept of it. If Dublin had many such ingredients in its mixture as you, Power, Dalton, and a *very* few more, I would look upon a tribute of this kind as not only advantageous, but honourable, and should reckon up the '*golden opinions*' of *such* 'sorts of men, with great pleasure; but alas! to lay myself under an obligation to — and —, and to have tickets, ostensibly for my benefit, circulating among the low, illiberal,

puddle-headed, and gross-hearted herd of Dublin (that 'palavering, slanderous set,' as Curran once so well described them to me),—this, my dear Corry, would never do. No, no! a man must indeed think with the often-quoted *night-man* of antiquity, 'bonus odor nunmi ex re quolibet.' Who would receive it reeking from such uncleanly sources? I love Ireland, but I despise Dublin; nor has it one claim on my gratitude (speaking of it as a public) to prevent my doing so. I have never been valued by them as I am here, and I question whether, even in a *lucrative* point of view, you would not be grievously disappointed in your hopes of making a house for me. My 'Melologue' (which is good writing compared to such a thing as 'M. P.') never, that I know of, drew a soul to the theatre in Dublin. Therefore, pray put it out of your head, my dear friend, and tell Dalton and Power my reasons, at the same time assuring them that I feel as I ought all their goodness in proposing it.

"I am truly happy to hear that Dalton has got such a comfortable addition to his income. If anything could spoil such a good fellow as Dalton, I think accepting a place from the hands of Wellesley Pole would go near to effect it; but I am convinced his *heart* is place-proof, which, in these times, is saying a good deal for it. Your description of the *pole's* turning towards the *milky way* is highly amusing.

"Well, I have written enough, God knows! so good bye, my dearest Corry, and believe me,

"Ever sincerely yours,

"THOMAS MOORE.

"I dined with a party of statesmen yesterday,—Tierney, Ponsonby, Erskine, &c. They all look very *blue*, and not the *Prince's blue*, I assure you.

"I wish you would frank the enclosed letter to Joe Atkinson, *Atanna, Ballynakill*. He wouldn't thank the angel Gabriel for a letter, if it was not franked."

To Miss Godfrey.

"Mayfield Cottage, Thursday night, 1813.

"We slept in our cottage, for the first time last night, after having served an ejection on the *ghosts*, who have been its only occupants for some time past. We have the luck of getting into haunted houses; for our Kegworth

mansion, though as matter-of-fact a *barn* as ever existed, must needs affect the *spirituel*, and had actually the reputation of being *troubled*. There is certainly every convenience *here* that a ghost could require, and we see nothing like a habitation from our windows, except just the upper part of an old church, which stands at half-a-mile distance among the trees; so that we really are (as our landlord pronounces it) as *lural* as possible, and I feel quite happy at my emancipation from the methodists and manufacturers that swarmed about us at Kegworth. We are, however, as yet, but very imperfectly settled, and, till I can get my little library up comfortably, the fields are my study; my 'books in the running brooks, sermons in stones,' &c. &c. We have had an exceeding good riddance of our widow, who is about the most trumpety person I ever met with, and the more tiresome and oppressive to us, as we were obliged to seem grateful to her for a vast deal of really very good-natured but, at the same time, very disagreeable civilities. She is romancing about coming to live near us! but I sincerely hope some captain or other may lay hold of her and her jointure, and spare us the pain of *cutting* so very dear a friend.

"We walked this evening into Ashbourne, and brought back some peas for our supper, which Bessy carried in a little basket upon her arm, as happily and prettily as any market-girl in Derbyshire.

"One of the very few pleasures I look forward to, that do not depend upon *myself*, is that of hearing frequently from you and dear Mary; so mind you do not disappoint me, and let me hear all the gossip you can collect for me.

"Ever yours.

"Best remembrances to sister Philly.

"T. M.

"Do not tell Rogers you have heard from me till I have time to write to him, which will be in a day or two."

To Miss Godfrey.

"Mayfield, 1813.

"I was a good deal relieved from my apprehensions about Lady Donegal by your letter, for though you mention colds, &c., I was afraid, from what Rogers said in his letter, that her old complaint had returned with

more violence than usual, as he mentioned that she was obliged to consult Baillie, and I always couple his name with something serious and *clinical*. But indeed, Rogers himself in the next line to this intelligence, mentioned having met her at Gloucester House the Saturday preceding; which (unless *aqua regalis* or *royal wish-wash* was among the doses prescribed by Baillie). I did not think looked like very serious indisposition. If *wishing* you both well and happy, and free from all the ills of this life, could in any way bring it about, I should be as good a physician for both your bodies and souls as you could find anywhere. So you insist upon my taking my poem to Town with me? I will if I can, you may be sure; but I confess I feel rather down-hearted about it. Never was anything more unlucky for me than Byron's invasion of this region, which when I entered it, was as yet untrodden, and whose chief charm consisted in the gloss and novelty of its features; but it will now be over-run with clumsy adventurers, and when I make my appearance, instead of being a leader as I looked to be, I must dwindle into a humble follower—a Byronian. This is disheartening, and I sometimes doubt whether I shall publish it at all; though at the same time, if I may trust my own judgment, I think I never wrote so well before. But (as King Arthur, in 'Tom Thumb,' says) 'Time will tell;' and in the mean time, I am leading a life which but for these anxieties of fame, and a few ghosts of debt that sometimes haunt me, is as rationally happy as any man can ask for. You want to know something of our little girls. Barbara is stout and healthy, not at all pretty, but very sensible-looking, and is, of course, to be everything that's clever. The other little thing was very ill treated by the nurse we left her with in that abominable Cheshire, but she is getting much better, and promises to be the prettier of the two. Bessy's heart is wrapped up in them, and the only pain they ever give me is the thought of the precariousness of such treasures, and the way I see that *her* life depends upon *theirs*. She is the same affectionate, sensible, and unaffected creature as a mother that she is as a wife, and devotes every thought and moment to them and me. I pass the day in my study or in the fields; after dinner I read to Bessy for a couple of

hours, and we are in this way, at present, going through Miss Edgeworth's works, and then after tea I go to my study again. We are not without the distractions of society, for this is a very gay place, and *some* of the distractions I could dispense with; but being far out of the regular road, I am as little interrupted as I could possibly expect in so very thick a neighbourhood. Thus you have a little panorama of me and mine, and I hope you will like it.

"Good-bye. Ever yours,
T. MOORE."

To Lady Donegal.

Mayfield, 1813.

"You may be assured that I was anything but angry on reading your kind lecture: the only thing is that I think you *quite* mistook me, for, as far as I can recollect, my feelings were by no means those of *levity* when I wrote that letter, and if they were that air, it was only from the habit one has got of giving a light turn to everything, the present age being so very anti-sentimental that every one is obliged to go in gay masquerade, and 'no black dominos are admitted' on any account. As for the rest, I believe you and I differ a little in our opinion of virtue—at least if you think, as you seem to do, that there would be more merit in having *lost* one's former propensities than in *conquering* them: in *my* mind the struggle makes all the virtue.

"'When the sea is calm
All boats alike show mastership in floating.'"

It is he that steers steadily onward, in spite of the surge of passion beneath, and the songs of Sirens around, who deserves the praise of resolution and virtue; and I cannot help thinking that I, poor Scaramouche, here, with all my love of pleasure and of folly as fresh on me as ever, yet leading a life of patriarchal purity, and *happy* in it, am a much greater hero in virtue than if all my said propensities were gone to sleep, and I had nothing to do but put on my night-cap and snooze quietly by their side. I know you will say that this is a very ticklish situation for poor virtue to be placed in;—but no matter, the more danger the more honour; and bad as it is to go wrong from *too much* feeling, it is, at least, a

duller thing to go right only from the *want* of it. I have a lovely, pure, and attached wife, and a smiling, rosy, pug-nosed child, one look from whom, if I were in the very claws of Old Nick, would loosen his grasp and restore me to heaven again. And now having given you one of those open confessions that are as good for the soul, they say, as other aperients are for the body, I must tell you that my book, such as it will be (for various calamities of criticism, anticipation, forestalment, &c., have made it very unlike what it was intended), shall most certainly come out in the course of this spring. What a nice opportunity it would be *now*, while Jeffrey's in America! When some savage French reviewer died, Bensarade wrote an epigram, which ended,

" ' Dieu merci ! — Je vais faire imprimer mon livre.' "

"What you tell me about Mackintosh is very delightful, if the compliment does not die, under the editor's bow-string, before it meets the light. So many pretty things have been lately *going* to happen to me! I was *going* to be very rich from the American war, and Lord Byron tells me he was *going* to dedicate the 'Bride of Abydos' to me. if you come to that, 'how do *you* like the "Bride of Abydos?"' In the country we never know *how* we like things till we hear how you like them in London.

"I have not time for more now. Best love to Mary.

' Ever yours,
" T. M.

"We had a grand ball here the other night, and you cannot imagine the sensation that Bessy excited: her dress was very pretty, and 'beautiful,' 'beautiful,' was echoed on all sides. I was (as the poet says) as pleased as Punch!

"The note to Longmans is of some consequence, so pray let it go soon: the twopenny-post will do."

From Miss Godfrey.

"London, Feb 22, 1813.

"It is a certain fact, that since I heard from you, I have, in my own mind, written you five or six letters, as excellent as ever were penned, though penned they never were. How should they, when I never had a pen in my hand since

I sent you off my last little flying reproach? And how could I have a pen in a hand that was never divested of a needle, thread, and thimble, except when I was nursing the sick or conversing with carpenters and upholsterers? This is all as much as to say that I have been very busy; first, preparing to go to Brighton with Lady Shaftesbury; secondly, taking care of Bab, whose illness prevented my leaving town; thirdly, helping to make the furniture, and assisting in putting our house in proper order fit for people to live in. I have still too much to do to allow me to write a long letter, which is so much the better for you, but a short one I must write in answer to yours. Your first letter, after wandering about the world, reached us long after your second. As to Lord M.'s conduct to you, one can have but one opinion of it; and it is better for him that that opinion should not be expressed—it would be only uselessly adding to the weight of censure that he has lately drawn upon himself, for the friend and the statesman appear to be pretty nearly made up of the same weak, miserable materials. All the good points of his character are mined by his weaknesses. And there is something very melancholy in seeing how completely he has outlived all the visionary splendour that so long surrounded his name. We were heartily sorry, however, that you let him off so easily. Why did you not accept his offers, such as they were? it was still keeping up a claim on him. Your answer he will take as a discharge in full; and he satisfies his *honour*. I dare say, in the reflection that he has made the offer. And, my dear Moore, as to your political opinions, it was very fine to indulge in them and act up to them while there was a distant perspective in so doing of fame or emolument, and at the same time a feeling that the triumph of such opinions, and the success of the party you belonged to, might be conducive to the prosperity of your country. But now when those opinions have less and less influence, and that party less and less consideration,—when your family is increasing, and your wants of course increasing with it,—don't you think prudence should have its turn? Would not your love for your wife, and anxiety for the welfare of your children, reconcile you to some little sacrifice of political opinions? I have a great deal of good reasoning upon this subject in my

own mind for you, but there it must remain at present, lest I should tire you without convincing you. I wish we could see you and talk the matter over with you ; I should not then despair of sending you back a complete rat. The time of Roman virtue, if such a thing ever existed, is gone by ; and why will you remain bolt upright, talking of systems and opinions to people who are only thinking of places and pensions, and only trying to get into power that they may have the full enjoyment of them ? Get into place and power whenever you can, and tell a plausible story how a sudden light from heaven shone upon you and convinced you. Your wife and children will be all the better for it, and yourself and your country not a bit the worse. Now that you see what a state of depravity my politics are in, I shall answer your questions regularly. First, we are not both quite well : Bab has been very ill with a very severe epidemic cold and cough. She is now much better, though not yet quite well. Secondly, we retain the kindest remembrance, and the warmest interest, for you and Bessy, of whose confinement we beg you will inform us. We shall be most happy to hear that she gets over it well. We see Rogers often in the morning, but he does not dine here, as we have only one room that we can inhabit at present, and we have not yet dined with him. I sometimes like him very much, and sometimes I think him so given up, body and soul, to the world, and such a worshipper of my Lords and my Ladies that I think it a great waste of any of my little spare kind feelings to bestow them upon him. Love without a coronet over it goes for nothing in his eyes. However, he amuses me, and I had rather be upon kind terms with him than not. Bab is more his than I am ; she sees him with kinder eyes, and shuts them oftener to his follies. Her affairs in Ireland are all settled for the future, but the arrears come in very slowly, which is a great inconvenience, as she has a considerable fine for the renewal of this house to pay off, beside great expense for the repairs, &c. ; but patience and economy will at last, I hope, set her affairs right, and they are now so far settled as not to worry her, which is a great point gained. The secret about the Princess Charlotte and Lady De Clifford was only that the Prince chose she should have another governess, and the Princess Charlotte chose to

keep her good old snuffy woman, who had always let her do as she liked. She resisted the new appointment stoutly, but at last yielded. Bab never thought of applying for the place, and to you and one or two more friends she owns, without scruple, she would never have accepted it had it been offered ; but, from her intimacy with the Queen and Princesses, she does not volunteer this declaration. The Princess of Wales has made a fine uproar : they say, however, there are no proofs for a divorce, and so things are to remain just as they are. Lady A. Hamilton is her favourite lady of the bedchamber, and the honour of writing the letter lies between her and Mr. Brougham. He denies it, but rather faintly ; and as he asked Rogers what Ward thought about it, it looks as if he had a little hand in it. Sir F. Burdett, they say, repents his promised motion, and is coming round to the Prince. ‘Rokeby’ is cried down. The bell rings ; so with kindest love to you and Bessy from us all, believe me,

“Ever yours,

“M. G.

“Bab will soon write, but says you are too lazy, and you put her out of patience.

“After writing at full gallop to catch the post, John brings me back my letter to say that it was wrong dated. I am glad he found out the mistake, as I am sure it is not worth postage. If I had time I’d write you a better, but I have not, so this shall go as it is to-morrow.”

To Miss Dalby.

“Oakhanger Hall, April 8, 1813.

“My dear Mary,

Bessy is so occupied with Mrs. —, that she has not a moment to spare for writing to you, and therefore has deputed the very agreeable but hasty task to me. What do you think ? On our arrival within four miles of this place, we heard (what I had often strongly anticipated) that poor old — was dead ! He died the day but one before we came. You may imagine the perplexity this threw us into, for I regarded our visit as completely frustrated, and I passed a miserable night at the miserable inn of Sandbach, turning over in my mind, with an anxiety I have seldom felt, the extreme awkwardness of our situation, and the difficulty I should find in disposing of

myself and the dear little group along with me, after our abandonment of house, furniture, and everything like a home. The morning, however, soon dissipated all this gloom; for, in answer to a note which I sent Mrs. —, there arrived a gay barouche, and two smiling servants, who conveyed us and our baggage hither, and, if there was not such a thing as a *corpse* still in the house, you would scarcely suppose that Death had ever showed his ugly face within the walls. The son-in-law and daughter are expected every hour, and after the will-reading and funeral are over, I think we shall be as if nothing had happened. Mrs. — takes most violently to Bessy, and as dis-possession from Oakhanger (if at all) will not be enforced for at least a year, we shall get on for three or four months quite as pleasantly as we expected. The place is beautiful. We have a suit of delightful rooms that open into each other;—a bedroom, my study, and a room for the maid and Barbara; and I write to you now at a window that looks over a sweet little lake and a glorious country. Your little daughter was very ill indeed on our arrival, but we have got a wet-nurse for her, and she already begins to recover and revive.

"Bessy sends her best love,—she is always talking to them about you. Ever, my dear Mary, your sincere friend,

"THOMAS MOORE."

To James Corry, Esq.

"Abergeley, Sunday, June, 1813.

"My dear Corry,

"I seize the very first quiet moment I have had for two months to give you some little account of myself, and ask pardons innumerable for my long and most criminal silence; but, if you knew the way (or rather the million ways) I was pulled about in Town, and the difficulty I found in snatching a minute for my *daily* letters to Bessy, you would forgive me without hesitation, and only think of congratulating me on being released from a bustle and dissolution, always so bewildering, and now become so very uninteresting to me. I went through it, indeed, quite as a task, for I thought it a good thing to see and be seen a little, and to put the springs of my town friendships in play again, lest they should grow rusty from disuse. You will be

glad, I am sure, to hear that, in this point of view, I have every reason to be delighted with my visit; I never met with more kindness, and certainly never with half so much deference, or half so many flattering tributes to me both as a man and an author. My conduct with Lord Moira is known to all those whom one is anxious to please, and I find it has got me indeed much more credit than I deserve for it. You will be surprised, too, to hear that the *Post-bag* has done me infinite service,—so differently do things sometimes turn out from what their tendency, at the first cursory glance, appears to be! Whether it be from any talent shown in it, or its courage, or the general dislike towards the Prince, nothing I ever wrote has gained me so much *pleasant* fame.

I am here *cottage-hunting*, but with so little success that I believe I shall try back towards my old ground in Derbyshire, or thereabouts. Wales is certainly so far from everything civilised, that nothing but its scenery and its cheapness could recommend it to one. The former, of course, remains always beautiful; but as to *cheapness*, it is become quite a humbug: if I may parody a line of my friend Byron's,—

"' Beef, mutton, poultry falls, but Nature still is fair.'

Your letter inclosing the draft, travelled to Kegworth, Cheshire; and at length, after these easy stages, reached me in town, from whence it returned, both letter and draft, unanswered, unaccepted, unannealed, to Cheshire again, where it now lies; but the moment I get back again you shall have the valuable instrument you inclosed, with all the validity that a poet's name can give it. A bill like this resembles those animals that lie in a torpid state for months together, and I shall be but too happy if I am able to *waken* it into *cash* in November.

"Give my best regards to Mrs. Corry, and believe me, my dear Corry, ever your very attached friend,

"THOMAS MOORE."

To James Corry, Esq.

"Ashbourne, July 1, 1813.

"My dear Corry,

"At last I have found a resting place, and you may now direct to me, in the true poetic style, to 'Mayfield Cottage, Ashbourne, Der-

byshire.' I have got a pretty little stone-built cottage, in the fields by itself, about a mile and a half from the very sweetly situated town of Ashbourne, for which I am to pay twenty pounds a-year rent, and the taxes come to three or four pounds more; but though this sounds so cheap, yet the expenses of furnishing, and the beautiful capabilities of the place, which tempt one into improvement so irresistibly, will make it, I fear, rather a dear little spot to me. Once done, however, to my mind (if the supplies will enable me to do it so), I think I shall not be easily induced to quit it, but shall keep it on still as a *scribbling retreat*, even though I should, in a year or two, find it more to my purpose to live in London; but certainly until my *Grande Opus* is finished, I could not possibly have a more rural or secluded corner to court the Muses in. We are fitting up a little room for a friend; and though it has but a low ceiling and cottage windows to it, yet I flatter myself we could make you and Mrs. Corry comfortable in it, if you would take us in your way to Matlock, Buxton, or any other given gay place you may be bound to. We are within four miles of that most poetical of all spots, Dove Dale.

"At length, my dear good fellow, after my long, long incubation, I have hatched your draft into something like an acceptance; and all I ask is, if it passes out of your own hands, that you will give me timely notice, that I may be fully prepared to ward off the '*irrevocabile telum*.'

"I do not remember whether I told you that I was solicited very flatteringly, while I was in town, to lecture at the Royal Institution next year. Campbell has just concluded his lectures. I should not have disliked it, but by Rogers's advice and that of some other friends (who thought it *infra dig.*) I declined it. A day or two since I received a very cordial letter from Whitbread, containing a most urgent entreaty that I should undertake something for Drury Lane. This, however, I shall not think of till after my poem.

"Write soon my dear Corry, and tell me all about the health and happiness of yourself and your dear Maria.

"Ever yours, faithfully,

THOMAS MOORE.

"My Bessy and babes are quite well, and would all jump with joy to see you."

From James Perry, Esq.

"Strand, July 2, 1813.

"My dear Sir,

"Your letter came to my hand seasonably, as I am going out of town to-morrow. I sincerely hope that you have made a happy choice of a retreat, though I cannot avoid thinking, that for every purpose of retirement and economy, you might have been as fortunate in your selection within an hour's walk of London. I have ordered your paper to be forwarded to your new address. I dare say that you have a bank at Ashbourne (for what village is without one?) and if so, they will give you money for a draft on me. In the meantime I enclose you 30*l.* in part of the 75*l.* bill transmitted to me, and you will please to draw on me for the remainder. Do not talk of balances. It will give me very sincere pleasure, as you may believe, to hear from you, and to know that you are proceeding in your great work. With kind respects to Mrs. Moore,

"Faithfully yours,

JAS. PERRY."

From James Corry, Esq.

"Lurgan Street, Dublin, July 9, 1813.

"Everything, my dear Moore, that contributes to your fame, your interests, or your happiness, must be most gratifying to us, and therefore your *two* last letters (strange you should have *two* unanswered) have been the occasion of most sincere congratulation and comfort to Maria and me.

"You have indeed, my dearest Moore, in this *remote part* of this *remote town* two very warm and very faithful friends; two, who, believe me, Moore, will yield to none of the many great ones in the gay world you have lately left, in affectionate attachment to you.

"It were in vain to tell you, therefore, with what joy I read your account of your reception in London. That it was *everything* it *ought* to have been is very evident, because you were satisfied with it *yourself*; for if statesmen, warriors, and poets are not hard to please in these particulars, then are they a class of gentlemen very cruelly calumniated by the rest of the world.

"Of the prodigious sale and popularity of your *Postbag* I had heard from various quar-

ters; our latest account was through Lord Ormonde, who arrived a few days before your letter; and though its success must only make my poor judgment in these matters appear more humble to you than it ever was before, yet I think I could rejoice in your happiness, though it were only procurable by a greater sacrifice to myself than that. No, Moore; the qualities which I possess to entitle me (if anything can entitle me) to an occasional letter from your pen, or render one of mine worth opening, are not those of the *head*, and therefore in the truest freedom of my heart you must let me tell you what I think of the offspring of your muse; and when my opinion fails in appealing to your judgment, it may at least have a favourable influence on your *spirits—utrumq. paratus*.

"The respect paid to your name at the University dinner had been previously communicated to me in a very circumstantial account of that day's proceedings by our worthy friend Power. From *his* letters, as well as from former letters from *yourself*, I am well aware of the unfavourable opinion you have of the estimation in which you are held by your own country. You think it is not as *kind* and as *partial* as it *might* be, nor even as *just* as it *ought* to be; and you rest that opinion, I know, among other things, upon the circumstance of your health being omitted at a public meeting at Belfast, where the name of every one, however remotely connected with the literary fame of the country, was toasted. I am reluctantly obliged to agree with you in the most of what you feel: the public mind of Ireland, if ever it had any, *is gone*; some of its best days were from 1770 to 1790. There did exist in those days a band of men who would have done honour to any country,—Malone—Daily—Burgh—Flood—Grattan—Charlemont, &c., and something like a love of literature and literary men prevailed; but I fancy they were respected only *among themselves*, for Ireland never was, in the *general*, a literary country; even the *political* changes of the times have none, or, if any, a very transient influence on her feelings. A single * county, town, or city could not lately be found to raise its voice of condolence upon the sufferings of our much-injured

Princess. I went myself to the theatre not two months since, to see 'Henry VIII.' (Kemble's Wolsey), with some *hope* (I own it) that the pathetic pleadings of Queen Catherine would, from the application of the scene to the events that were passing, have *struck fire* into the hearts of the audience; but *not a hand was raised*. So help me God, I do believe the *million* of this country never knew the impulse of any other public feeling but a *love of Popery* and a hatred of the *English name*. In the tumultuous agitations which these two topics have occasioned, wonder not if the *sighs of the bard are unheard*.

"But still, my dear Moore, in justice to my country, give me a word about Belfast.

"I well remember that meeting, and the circumstances of it, and I can assure you that you are not to regard the events of that day as in anywise expressive of the *public* feeling towards *yourself*. It was a meeting convened by the friends of a Mr. Buntin, who had published about that time at Belfast, of which he is a native, a collection of *Irish Melodies*. In the *spirit of trade* they bumped to Mr. Buntin and *his Melodies*; and then, affecting to give a literary character to the meeting, they drank a list of literary men, from which they carefully excluded the name of every one connected with *certain other Melodies* that had made their appearance about the same time. This, I *believe*,—I almost *know*,—was the fact.

To that same town of Belfast, Maria and I set out *to-morrow* on our way to the '*lawn of brown heath*.' Thither we go, alike *unknown* and *unknown*, with a map of the roads, and Providence for our guide. And *where are you going*, Corry? Upon my soul, Moore, I can't well tell you. Some little longing to tread on ground immortalised by the muse is the only impelling motive, I know of, that we have. This is the *quo animo* of our journey.

Onward we shall go, therefore, careless though we may be

" 'Catched wi' warlocks in the mirk,
By Alloway's auld haunted kirk.'

Thence we mean to move towards Edinburgh, '*romantic town*;' perhaps stretch northward far enough to see the place where Birnam Wood *was* before it moved to Dunsinane; and from thence, turning southwards, we must go

* The address of the Catholics was the policy of a *party*, not the honest expression of *national* feeling.

to 'view fair Melrose aright,' and so home, by the Lakes. Such is the plan of our intended tour: and the only objection I have to it is that our path does not lead us near the '*little stone-built cottage in the fields, a mile and a half from Ashbourne.*' Now, I should like to put on my working jacket there, and under the direction of *Bessy* set about whitening the building; cocked up on the kitchen stool, or nail up the curtains to the little cottage windows; and should the noise of our hammering make you lift up your head from the *grande opus* on your table, and smile at us both for the fuss we were making, I'd chide you (*and not the first time*) for laughing at the attentions paid to the lovely *Lady Godiva* by the *worshipful Mayor of Coventry*.

"All the world is gone to-day to a public breakfast at Carton. The Duke of Leinster honoured us with a card; but everything being fixed for our departure to-morrow, Maria had some little domestic troubles on her hands to-day. So, while she is locking up plates, spoons, and dishes, I am occupied, you see, in settling *your house*, instead of *my own*.

"I hope you will have leisure to ruminate upon the Whitbreads' requests after your more important work is finished. I can't help thinking that you possess every quality in the world for succeeding in dramatic writing. In political satire you have no equal.

"You did not, I hope, make a *present* of the *Post-Bag* to the bookseller. Would to heaven that you had but a fair proportion of the wealth you have created for others! But you'll have enough, please God.

"Oh! how I should like to see one good edition of *all* your works (your song poetry included) undertaken by yourself. But I crave, perhaps, about what I do not understand; 'tis under such circumstances, however, that our wishes are most fervid.

"God bless you, my dear Moore; and with Maria's and my kindest regards to Mrs. Moore,

"Believe me

"Your most faithful friend,

"JAMES CORRY.

"P.S. *If* you should happen to feel disposed to give us the happiness of hearing from you while we are out on our rambles, direct as usual to Dublin, and your letter will be forwarded."

To Miss Dalby.

"Mayfield, 1813.

"My dear Mary,

"Bessy leaves the *literary* part of your letter for me to answer. Lord Byron's last poem *did give* me (I am sorry to tell you) a deep wound in a very vital part—my story; and it is singular enough, for he could not know anything about it. Your brother and Mary Matcett are both in extremes on the subject of his bride. He *could not* write anything bad, but it would have been much finer if he had taken more time about it. He is half-way or more through *another* poem, '*The Corsair.*'

"Bessy would have written more if she had not been so ill, and so would I if I were not so busy.

"What does Sir C. Hastings mean by saying Bonaparte is not a great man? I almost agree with him about the Ministers; though, if they have not come round to the good cause, the good cause has certainly come round to them.

"Ever yours,

"T. M."

From Samuel Rogers, Esq.

"July 28, 1813.

"My dear Moore,

"I cannot tell you the pleasure I felt when I received your letter from Fairy-land. You are now where you ought to be; and I hope you have already initiated Psyche into all the mysteries of Dove Dale. If you see the Kingfisher I saw there, pray let me know. How far are you from Throp-cloud, and Nam Churchyard, and Oak-over Hall,—names consecrated in my imagination before I was fifteen? I can assure you I wander with you both very often, and flatter myself I sometimes hear *myself* mentioned in those regions of enchantment. My dear Moore, if you don't now write better verses than any of us, I shall disown you as a friend. Byron has made some additions to '*The Giaour*,' that exceed everything. The passage, 'He who hath bent him o'er the dead,' will thrill you through and through. I longed for you, but in vain, in my boat to Richmond the other day. The ladies were innumerable; and the slow airs on the water came as *thru' the gates of Paradise ajar*. I met Madame de Stäel in Kent, the other day, and she was always reading the Irish Melodies.

It was at Lord Darnley's, and she asked for them again and again. London is breaking up very fast; but I have not ventured farther at present than Holland House. Here I am writing, and I wish you were with me. Frere, Mackintosh, and Luttrell slept here last night. As Lord B. and Lady D. are your correspondents, I have little to tell you.

"August 1.

"I have now to thank you for two very kind letters; the last inclosing what I shall highly value; if it was written with pain, it was read with pleasure; and I can truly say that I think myself MUCH OBLIGED to her for her acceptance of what I sent her. I know her friendship will strike her blind to all the faults in the world. So you have been in Dove Dale? I fear it is not within reach of an evening walk. How I should have enjoyed it with you; and how I wished for you at Vauxhall! My sister mentioned you more than once. It was one blaze of light; and one thing affected me not a little, to see the name of a schoolfellow, whom I remember a little dirty boy, and who toiled with me (we worked by ourselves) through Simpson's Euclid, written there in letters of fire! Many thanks for the kind things you say of the review. I have heard, but I hope not, that it was the work of my friend, J. W. W. One person, Lord Wellesley, has expressed his indignation to me in a most friendly manner, as well as to others. It is certainly done with no great goodwill to the author, as many things are said which the reviewer knows are not true. Lady Donegal is just now with Lady Glenbervie*, at the Pheasantry. 'Is Moore arrived?' said Madame de Staël to me, at a dinner last week; 'I have a passion for his poetry.' She complains that she cannot understand Lord Byron's; but I believe he has not been very attentive to her. Strong feeling delights her most. The death of Clarissa, she says, comes to her constantly as one of the events of her life. Her daughter† you would like; she is very pleasing, and dances a shawl-dance beautifully. The mother, too, you would like,—very good-natured, very lively, and eloquent. She speaks English well, but not fluently. Pray come and meet her, and bring Psyche. She dines

with me next Friday, and chairs shall be reserved for you both—so I shall expect you. Sheridan dined with me last Wednesday. He says he has found a cottage for you at Fatcham, and seems quite astonished at your having settled elsewhere. By the by, I have not seen yours, that I remember. He says if you and I and himself would but be neighbours, we might scorn the world; and Lord Byron says, in that case, he will give up his restlessness, and settle there too. Pray say everything you can think of to Psyche. I would have written to her, but it is on a subject I am ashamed to touch upon; by and by I will. I am rejoiced to think she is well, and beg she will keep so. A kiss to each of your babes. The allusion to the days of Homer I think I have seen before.

"Ever yours,

S. R."

From Miss Godfrey.

"London, Aug. 5, 1813.

"Rogers gave me the enclosed to get franked to you. I can't resist taking the opportunity to ask after you and Bessy, and little Barbara, and the other little animal;—are you all flourishing in health and happiness? and do your absent friends ever by any accident occupy a stray thought? The worst of love in a cottage is, that it lives all for itself, and the rest of the poor dear world may go to the dogs for anything it cares about it. By the by, I think it right to inform you that by the time you and Bessy come to live amongst us Christians again, I flatter myself I shall be well qualified to assist in teaching Miss Barbara Moore how to read, for I make daily progress in the art of educating young ladies. We are just come back from visiting the Glenbervies and the Berrys, at Strawberry Hill. The weather was beautiful, the country ditto, and we had some pleasant society; so we passed our time much to our satisfaction, and found London on our return in a galloping consumption, and just expiring, to our great joy.

Farewell,

"M. G.

"I see your eleventh edition advertised."

From Leigh Hunt, Esq.

"Surrey Jail, Sept. 20, 1813.

"My dear Moore,

"I know not what conclusions you have

* Daughter of Lord North (the Minister).

† Duchesse de Broglie.

made with respect to my politeness, and am afraid to think about them; but you will forgive much, I know, to bad habits and to worse health, and will be sorry to hear that I have had so many relapses of ill health lately, as, conspiring with the natural indolence of my disorder have rendered me almost unfit for anything. I have got better, however, within these few days, still reckoning myself stouter than when I first came here; and I sit down, this fine morning, to say how much obliged to you I am for thinking of me and my verses in your new scenery of enjoyment. If ever I can prevail with myself to write a batch of them over again, I shall be truly happy to send them you; and at any rate, I trust that when I have the pleasure of another visit, you will tell me all that you think concerning them in the way of criticism, both verbal and otherwise;—but at present, I have advanced only thirty-four lines beyond the place you saw last, and have found it necessary to relieve myself from that intentness of thinking which grave composition requires, by falling in with an old plea, ‘the request of friends,’ and busying myself in preparing for re-publication the ‘Feast of the Poets,’ with additional verses and notes. To these are to be added some little pieces I have lately written, such as translations from Horace, Sonnets, &c., in order to make up a decent volume; and as I have retouched the verses and written additional ones, I hope very shortly to have the pleasure of sending a copy into Derbyshire.

“I shall anxiously keep in mind what you say about unusual words, and beg that when you look at my lines, you will have no mercy in pointing them out, for I assure you I will turn them out if they have no business there. A writer may get a trick of using some words of this kind, before he is aware of it; but if they are merely unusual, and not such as a man in a natural mood would utter from the impulse of some powerful abstract feeling or reflection, they have nothing to do with poetry. The *ahas* and *afars*, you know, I have already delivered over to your secular arm; and am much afraid that you will not let a heterodox couplet pass in the ‘Feast of the Poets:’—it is where I have introduced Coleridge and Wordsworth,—

* When one began spouting the cream of orations,
In praise of bombarding one's friends and relations

And t' other some lines he had made on a straw,
Showing how he had found it, and what it was for,* &c.*

But will not the ballad humility of the lines excuse it?—By the way, I have taken the opportunity of this re-publication to make peace with my conscience and speak much more highly of Wordsworth than at first. I do not pass over his puerilities; they only make me, if possible, still more indignant; but then I do not suffer my indignation to run away with itself; and certainly in the better parts of Wordsworth there appear to me all the elements, not only of a good, but of a great poet,—strong intellect, strong feeling, and dignified consciousness, and a command of the very identical words which he requires.

“May I, in return for the disclosure of all my frailties, request at least a taste of your poem, — the first paragraph, for instance? I will promise to keep the lines quite to myself; they shall be enjoyed by me in a corner; as a boy takes his solitary apple;—but pray if the thing is inconvenient, think of it no further.—Make my best respects, if you please, to Mrs. Moore, with whom, in consequence of her sympathies with imprisonment, I reckon myself acquainted already,—in heart if not in person.

“Yours, my dear Moore, very sincerely,
“LEIGH HUNT.

“P. S. I have not again had the pleasure of a visit from Lord B.; and have sometimes endeavoured to flatter myself that he was waiting to be invited.—Should you be generous enough to write me another letter before long, I shall be eager to show my proper sense of it and answer it immediately.”

To James Corry, Esq.

Ashbourne, Oct. 25, 1813.

“My dear Corry,

“I did not like to risk writing to you while you were away, as I was afraid my letters might have to follow you from place to place, as Lord Moira's venison followed Joe Atkinson; and whereas the latter was quite *alive* when it caught Joe, my letters, I fear, would have lost even the little life they

* An article in the “Friend,” in defence of the Copenhagen business.

had at setting out, in the chace: but now that the cold winds of the North have, I presume, sent you home again, I feel most happy in returning to fresh communion with you, and in asking how the journey has agreed with you, as well *spiritually* as *corporeally*. Mrs. Corry too,—I hope most sincerely she is all the better for it, and I again renew my claims upon a little postscript from her own hand, when next you write to me: now, mind, she must not forget this.

"We have got into rather a gayer neighbourhood here than I bargained for, but I am determined to go into a torpid state for the winter, and suck my paws, like the bears, as indeed, if I do not work hard, I shall have little else to live upon;—after all, however, it is better than turning Poet Laureat. What do you think of Southey? Is it not *quite* a pity that such a Pegasus as his should be turned into a royal 'cream-coloured horse, for state occasions? I heartily mourn over him. — You will be sorry, I am sure, to hear, that my Island of Bermuda is far from being a *Cucagna* to me, no Island of dainties, but barren of money, as its rocks are of vegetables. I am sure, I am cheated, and yet I do not know how to help myself. Bessy and I have been lately on a visit to Derby, and found a nest of young poetesses in a family there that amused and interested me a good deal, particularly as some of them were pretty and natural.

* * * * *

They are daughters of the *Strutts* (with one of whom we were for a week), three brothers in the cotton trade, who have more than forty thousand a year between them, and, what is much better, love literature, music, and everything else that cotton manufacturers are not likely to love. The Edgeworths were our predecessors at their house.

"I wish, my dear Corry, you would write to me often; your letters are always the pleasantest I receive, and Bessy quite claps her hands with joy at the sight of a letter from 'dear Mr. Corry:' so, do gratify us with long, very long ones. The only very faithful and voluminous correspondent I have is Lord Byron, which is exceedingly delightful to me, as he is just as gay a companion and correspondent as he is a sombre and horrific poet.

"Best regards to Mrs. Corry, and believe me most truly your very attached friend,

"THOMAS MOORE.

"I inclose a postscript, or rather inscript."

From James Corry, Esq.

Lungan Street, Nov. 1, 1813.

"My dear Moore,

"Your last letter must have sailed from Holyhead much about the same time that I embarked from Port-patrick, both bound for the same place; but as *I* had further to travel to our capital, it reached Dublin before me.

"I left Maria at my sister's on our way through the North, about thirty miles from town, a little jaded from her journey, but very well; and am here once more, my dear Moore, after the most delightful tour that I believe the United Kingdom, at least, is capable of affording. Scotland is to be sure one of the most romantic countries in the world; it is a region of mountains, lakes, and water falls; but its river scenery surpasses all. In the principal glens along the western and Northern coast, the *road* and the *bridge* (particularly the *bridge*) exhibit a great deal of beauty. The bed of the river in those mountainous districts lies, of course, very low down, and the road is half-way up the hill, and whenever it becomes necessary to cross the valley, they wisely choose some narrow part of the glen, that affords two opposing rocks to support their arch: the highest rocks are always preferred, as coming nearer to the level of the road; from whence it follows, that a bridge in the Highlands is everywhere the seat of romantic beauty, for then you have always a *high arch*, and a torrent tumbling between rocks, at a great depth below. But we did not confine ourselves to the *Continent* of Scotland; we visited some of the principal *Islands* of the Hebrides. We spent a week in *Mull*, *Ulra*, &c. and from thence embarked for *Iona* and *Staffa*, which latter place I was anxious to see, because Fingal's Cave is the *basaltic boast* of Scotland; and we had seen the Giants, Causeway in the Irish part of our tour; but unfortunately the surf among the rocks was too high to let us land.

"Our *poetical* and *theatrical reveries* gave us a great deal to do in the course of our journey. We visited the cottage in Ayrshire where

poor Burns was born; peeped into Kirk Alloway with him; and traced him to his last home in the churchyard of Dumfries. I was delighted to hear that his three sons were all provided for in the public service, and his widow enjoying a neat mansion, and a comfortable competence in the town of Dumfries,—the fruits of his labours. But we did not neglect living poets in our respect for the dead; the *Minstrel's last lay* was not forgotten, nor was any part of the scenery of the Lady of the Lake left unexplored. We set out for Loch Katrine, of course, and

“ ‘In the deep Trossach's wildest nook,
Our solitary refuge took.’

From the glen of the Trossachs we embarked on the lake, and landed at the ‘*Goblin Cave*,’

“ ‘A wild and strange retreat,
As e'er was trod by human feet.’

From which we crossed to Ellen's Isle, and climbing up

“ ‘From underneath an aged oak
That slanted from the islet rock,’

we reached her supposed habitation. From this part of the world the muse of Walter Scott sent us to the banks of the Teviot and the Tweed, along which we travelled with William of Deloraine, from Branksome Castle to Melrose Abbey, which, of course, in obedience to the poet's instructions, we took care to visit by the ‘pale moonlight.’ Our labours did not end here; we traced the whole *topography of Macbeth*, though the different places connected with his history lay some hundred miles asunder. We visited *all* his castles, *Cawdor*, *Glamis*, *Inverness*,—the scene of Duncan's murder, and travelled along the *blasted heath*, uninterrupted, however, as Johnson says, in his own dry way,—‘uninterrupted by the promises of crowns or kingdoms;’—inquiring as we went of every lonely traveller we could venture the *quiz* on, in our best tragic voices, ‘How far is't called to Forres?’ On we travelled to Forres, and saw the stone erected in memory of the defeat of ‘Sueno, Norway's king,’ for licking whom Macbeth got his second title: from thence we traced the tyrant to the southward, to Birnam Wood and Dunsinane, and did not part from him till we came to the field where he fell by the hands of Macduff; from which we attended his successor, Malcolm, ‘to see him crowned at *Scone*.’ In short we travelled near 1,500 miles, and saw *every-*

thing interesting in Scotland. An extraordinary and very pleasant adventure happened to us at the commencement of our tour. We fell in with two of the most delightful young men I ever saw—two brothers—the elder a young templar, the younger an under-graduate of Oxford; and after half an hour's conversation in one of the most romantic passes on the Western Coast, we liked each other so well that we became companions for the rest of the journey: they lived with us for *six weeks*! Our mode of travelling was the same,—each a chariot and post horses,—so that by changing with each other we had a constant variety of company. I think I see you heartily tired of my gossiping account of our adventures: but after *Pat* has seen anything new or wonderful, you know he always meets his friend open-mouthed, and without even waiting to ask him how he does, begins and tells him his story all at once, without stopping.

“It's high time to ask you, my dear fellow, how you are, and how ‘*my dear Mrs. Moore*’ is, whom, by all the rules of the *Lex Talionis*, I am entitled to call by that name; but I'll not tell you the half of what I feel *in this letter*, because I'll send it to Maria to add—not her *post-script* (for the best of reasons), but her *in-script*—you might else have *two tours* through Scotland, so this shall go to Madam to-night; and before to-morrow's post goes out I'll give you a line or two on business,—till when Heaven bless you *and yours*.

“JAMES CORRY.”

From James Corry, Esq.

“Lurgan Street, Nov. 8, 1813.

“Pray forgive me, my dear Moore, for my delay in sending you this promised *supplement* to my Scotch Rhapsodies, but in faith the arrears of business that accumulate in the course of so long an absence from the shop, has been the means of keeping me so busy since my return, that I have been often obliged to throw myself on the indulgence of my friends, and few I know are more disposed to forgive than you.

“If I thought you would allow me to say one word more of Scotland, it would be this. I spent some time with Lord and Lady Kinaird*, at their beautiful seat in Perthshire,

* Olivia, daughter of William Robert, second Duke of Leinster.

Rossie Priory, and it was no small addition to our happiness there to hear them speak in a way of you that was delightful. Whenever I hear you flattered I always hold up my head the higher, as if part of the praise belonged to myself. Maria and I often wished for you both, although I am not sure whether Mrs. Moore would have liked to have heard so lovely a woman as Lady Kinnaid say so many pretty things of you. We had Mr. and Mrs. Henry Siddons there for two days. * * * * * Lord K.'s kindness to us was not confined to his *hospitalities*. My way was towards Edinburgh on leaving him. Had your *friend Jeffrey* been there he would have given me a letter to him; but Jeffrey is gone to America, it seems, upon some matrimonial speculation. He gave me an introduction, however, to a most able and intelligent man, a Mr. Murray, who is at the Scotch Bar; *—I believe a *literary ally* of Jeffrey's in his review—so at least they told me. He spoke to me of you as a poet, in the kindest manner, and before I said I knew you, he told me he considered your 'Twopenny Post Bag' the cleverest thing you had written. The *Dinner* he said he preferred to everything else, even to the *Insurrection of the Papers*. I thought, as the conversation proceeded, it would have been uncandid in me (for a week's residence in Edinburgh made us very intimate) not to tell him how far I had presumed upon my friendship for you, in writing to you when that work came out. 'You were right,' says he, 'if you bottomed your opinion on the impolicy of such a man's *spending* himself in *detached* writing, for detached writing will never convey that portion of fame which the talents *necessary* for compositions of that nature would bestow on a writer who succeeded in a greater work; but you were *wrong* if you thought it unworthy of his talents; for I must repeat to you, that I think it the *cleverest* thing he ever wrote.' Our two young English companions, whom I mentioned in my last, told me they thought it was more generally read in London than any book they had ever seen, and everywhere as generally admired. I know you will regard all this as *atonement for my errors of judgment*. But no, Moore, upon my *honour* I am only telling you, and

truly too, what *others* have said. Those two young Englishmen—Messrs. Rickets (their father was Attorney-General in Jamaica for many years)—said they would give the world to know you. I gave them a letter of introduction to you when we parted, but I have learnt from their letters since, that they met letters at Edinburgh, which obliged them to abandon their carriage and hurry in the mail to London; one of them said, that somewhere in Derbyshire he travelled for a while on the roof, and there met a young lady who was going to your cottage.

"Dublin is now pretty full. Poor Miss Grattan! You know of course of her death. Her nephew, Gervas Bushe, succeeds to most of her property. Mr. Grattan and his wife, and Henry and the two girls, have been, I may say, *living* at Richard Power's for these ten days past. And I (being a *bachelor*) have been living with them. The elder girl is to be immediately married to Blackford. I meet the Daltons there every day, both looking very well, but poor Dalton appears to me more lame every day. You know Mr. Grattan's peculiar way of thinking and talking. I can't help telling you what he said of the Catholics, speaking of their conduct to the Prince. 'They have abused him in every possible shape; for *first* they have abused his *person*, of which he is very vain; and *secondly* they have abused his *mistress*, of whom he is very fond; and *thirdly*, not content with all that, *they have praised his own wife*. Poor gentleman, he is sadly used.'—I expect *my* wife home to-morrow. She tells me that she has made a request of you—to accept, whenever you revisit Ireland, a bed in this house;—is there the most remote chance of our ever having such a happiness as that? Such an arrangement would make us too proud. A thousand *loves* to Mrs. Moore. Farewell my dearest friend, and ever believe me, Moore,

"Yours most faithfully and fondly,
"JAMES CORRY."

From Miss Godfrey.

(Probably Feb.) 1814.

"We were rejoicing in the thoughts of seeing you again, and just going to tell you so, when Rogers informed us your plans were all changed, and that you had put off coming to

* The present Lord Murray,—one of the best, kindest and most generous men living.

Town for the present. We felt quite disappointed, and very earnestly hope you will come up in the spring. We rather wish, however, that you may be able to keep clear of Lord Ellenborough's wig; it cannot be a very pleasant sight to you, who have never treated it with the smallest respect. But pray bring your poem with you. The time you have been about it is quite absurd in the nineteenth century, when poets produce something new at least once a month. 'The Corsair' is very much liked; and it certainly has many beauties; but surely the dedication might have been done with as kind a feeling and yet with better taste and better judgment. Lord Byron never ought to write prose,—don't you think so? Is there not a sort of inelegant pertness in his style? I give him credit for kind feelings towards you, but we are both very angry that he did not express them better. Perhaps you may think us unreasonable and unjust, and so I shall say no more upon the subject. Madame de Staël never ceases expressing her desire to know you, and always asks when you are coming. She is a great admirer of your talents. About a fortnight since, we met her at dinner at the Duke of Gloucester's, and his band played 'Lady fair' twice in the course of the evening, to her great delight, and her son and daughter, who, I believe, set up for a sort of musical geniuses, were quite in raptures. This dinner was given to bring about a meeting between her and Mr. Wilberforce, which was very interesting. But I have given you so much of her in my letters of late, and she is so much talked of, and occupies so considerable a place in the society of London at present, that I am almost tired of her name. I shall, therefore, send her off with Lord Byron. You have no idea of the very great anxiety that every soul feels about the affairs of the Continent. People tell us we are to have peace immediately, and alas, with Bonaparte! for which thanks to the shabby Austrians, who preserve him to trample upon mankind a little longer. And to say the truth, mankind well deserves it, for it has a wonderful respect for tyrants. * * * *

How have you all got through the winter? Such a winter never was felt before in this country. We have all been invalids in one way or other, and are still plagued by coughs and colds, which will probably see the winter

out. We have been extremely quiet, seeing only a few friends in a very quiet way, and going on just as you have seen us go on for years. Rogers says you have sent up your Epilogue. I dare say it is very good, and will succeed well. Give our love to Bessy. What sort of little girls are yours—are they like father or mother? Are they strong and healthy? A thousand kind things to you from us both.

"M. G."

To Samuel Rogers, Esq.

"Jan. 13, 1814.

"My dear Rogers,

"Living in the fields, as we do, we cannot stir a step without pioneers and shovels, and I cannot find it in my heart to send a servant into Ashbourne through the waste, so that I am obliged to lay hold on any unfortunate person who brings me a message, and make him useful to me by taking ten times as many messages back again. Just such a *return-courier* is now in the house, and I take the opportunity of writing by him a very few lines, lest you should leave Lord Spencer's before you receive at least an acknowledgment of your very, very kind letter from Althorpe. I can hardly wish you where I am in this very *anti-cottage* weather, but I wish heartily we were together somewhere, for I want you, *selfishly* want you, often; and the glimpses I get at you through letters, is something like what we have of the sun at this season,—very bright, but distant and cheerless: yet not cheerless, either, except in comparison with the same kind things, said *à quattr' occhi* over a good fire, with one of your best smiles illustrating every word. That's what I want, and that is what, for some months to come, I fear I shall not have. Lord Byron dedicates his 'Corsair' to me, which I look upon as a very high niche in the Temple indeed,—to be placed so near *you*, too! Between you and Lord Holland I fear I shall have applied to me the *reverse* of the famous epigram,—

"Wisdom and Wit full-sized were seen,
And Folly, at *small length*, between."

I think there are few more *generous* spirits than Lord Byron's, and the overflowing praise he has lavished on me in his dedication (if he preserves that of which he has sent me a copy) is just such as might be expected from

a profuse, magnificent-minded fellow, who does not wait for the scales to weigh what he says, but gives praise, as sailors lend money, by 'handfuls.' Let others think what they will of it, he has made *me* very proud and happy; and the more he commits his judgment for my sake, the more grateful, of course, I must feel for his goodnature.

"My *return* post-boy is clamouring below stairs, so I must have done, and shall write to you a longer letter next week, directed to St. James's Place.

"Ever yours affectionately,
"THOMAS MOORE."

To James Corry, Esq.

"Tuesday, Feb. 23, 1814.

"My dear Corry,

"I have been very slow in thanking you for your kind panegyric, which had all the features of the warm heart and sound head it came from. I suppose you have before this seen Lord Byron's overflowing eulogium. He has got into a tremendous scrape with the Carlton House faction by the avowal of his 'Lines to the Young Princess.' 'The Courier,' 'Morning Post,' &c. &c. have been all, as he says himself, 'in hysterics' since their appearance; and I have come in for my full share of the bespatterment. When scavengers become assailants, there is no coming very clean out of their hands. Indeed, 'The Courier' has taken the only method such dull dogs could hit upon for annoying Byron, by raking up all his past and *suppressed* abuse of those he is now friends with; and they have quoted the very passage upon which I called him to account (and from which sprung our intimacy), to contrast it with his present praise of me. Byron tells me that till his avowal of those formidable lines to the young Royalty, the Regent always thought they were *mine*.

"What has *Bryan* been doing? I have seen some severe strictures upon his conduct; and as I am a good deal interested about him, you will oblige me very much by telling me frankly, and, of course, in perfect confidence, what is the general impression his conduct has made, as I have only seen 'The Dublin Evening Post,' and that paper is naturally under much irritation against him.

"The spring is beginning to shine out upon

our cottage very deliciously, and my only alloy is that Bessy is not as well and strong for the enjoyment of her garden and flowers as I could wish.

"I believe I told you that I had been requested to write an Epilogue for Mrs. Wilmot's forthcoming tragedy. Were *you* of the party with Power to hear her read when you were in London?—if not, ask Power whether the play she read was 'Ina of Sigiswold,' for that is the name of the tragedy to which I have written the Epilogue. I hope it may be done but half the justice to in the speaking that my Kilkenny one was.

"I am getting on with my poem, though I begin to tremble about its appearance this season; this, however, shall not interfere with my Grand Memoir—as once over the fit period for publication, I have a long summer for all my jobs before me.

"Still in debt to Mrs. Corry! If warm and frequent remembrances are a satisfactory *interest* upon the *debt*, I pay them faithfully; and am, dear Corry,

"Hers and yours, very truly,

"THOMAS MOORE.

"I have a copy of 'The Corsair' lying by me for you ever since it was published; but I have been startled by the idea that it would be too heavy for your franking privilege. I feel your pulse in that way with an enclosure now, which I must beg you to forward for me immediately."

From Leigh Hunt, Esq.

Surrey Jail, March 4, 1814.

"My dear Moore,

"I do not see why you should have had the 'unquiet conscience' of which you speak. I took your criticism upon critics in the very best part, I assure you,—and for more than one reason. In the first place, you are inclined, after all, to agree with me on the subject of the dews and flowers,—at least to a *certain extent*, and that is all which your admirers would demand. I protest, therefore, against performing the part of a Derbyshire blight, and being considered as an interferer with your floral enjoyments,—enjoyments, which I would riot in if I could, as well as yourself. In the next place, I am very much inclined to agree with *you* on the

subject of critics in general, considered as *mere* critics; but you must know, I make a modest exception on this point with regard to myself, for nobody has the free and unfettered interests of poetry more closely at heart; and one of the main objects of my notes on the Feast, was to give another finishing blow to the cold French school that established itself on the neck of our better literature. Let us return to our old fancy and feeling, and our fine, various, pregnant language, and my criticism will be nothing but panegyric; or, rather, I shall lay down my critical pen for ever, and try to be a poet as well as the rest of you. Yourself I have always considered, in the general cast of your genius, as opposed to the school of poetry that has now existed for a hundred years back. Your fancy belongs to the former age; and what I have ventured to object to your style in any respect, was for fear you should be considered by those who did not know you as well as I do, as countenancing the monotony and confined sphere of inferior spirits. You are capable of enjoying *all* nature, and are bound to do so.

"The author of the criticism upon you in 'The Champion' I know. He is, as you handsomely acknowledge, a very clever fellow, but he is apt, also, to go to extremes both in his censure and his praise, and is aware how much I differ with him in the present instance. He has no ill motives, however, of any kind; and I think I can undertake to say for him, that he will be ready to acknowledge his mistake in his very warmest manner, when he discovers it, as he must do in the course of your future writings. He shall be acquainted with such facts of your letter as are necessary for him to know, with the caveat, of course, that you mention. By the way, I must not forget to tell you, that I saw Brougham yesterday, who is one of your admirers, political as well as poetical, and who expressed his regret upon this occasion.

"The 'Missionary,' I suppose, is my brother editor, poor Montgomery. I have not heard of the circumstance, but I guess him to be the man. Talking of poets and their destinies, pray do you know anything of Lucien Bonaparte and his epic?*" I am curious to know

* "Charlemagne,"

what is thought of him by those who have seen his verses. You are bound to gratify my curiosity in some way, as you have excited it in speaking of your own poem. Why did you not send me a paragraph,—a single paragraph? It would have come upon me like the glimpse of a spring day; and I assure you I could not pay you a better compliment in my anticipations, for never was sick prisoner more heartily tired of a winter than I have been; and yet the fellow seems resolved to hold it out to the last, with his chills and blusterings. Unfortunately, my two oldest friends and companions have been compelled to be much away from me for the last six months,—one of them, indeed, in the country during the whole time; and as I am not fond of ordinary acquaintances, and have rather avoided them, I have had the least portion of society at the very season when I most wanted it. By this you may guess how much I regret your non-appearance in town this March. The other day I had a visit from two handsome young ladies, and had scarcely sat down with them, when I was interrupted by some members of a Lancasterian institution. You will allow that, under all the circumstances, this was a hard trial of my philanthropy at the expense of my *philogony*.

"Yours, my dear Moore, most sincerely,
"LEIGH HUNT."

To Samuel Rogers, Esq.

"Mayfield, April 10, 1814.

"My dear Rogers,

"Though I owe many letters to many people, and don't owe *you* one at all, yet you see, like Charles Surface, I let my generosity outstrip my justice, and write to you. The last time I heard of you, you were at Hope's with the Donegals; but I dare say, long before now, you have bid him and his magnificence farewell (*Spes et Fortuna, valet!*) and are now preparing to take flight somewhere for the Easter. I wish I had Cornelius Agrippa's glass to trace you through your rambles; though it would not do if I could not *hear* as well as *see* you in it; and when *shall* I either see or hear you? I suppose the Donegals have told you that I think of making my next move near to London, and then, what delight I have in anticipating, my dear Rogers, that we shall go on seeing each other every

day, perhaps, till the end of our lives. This is a pleasant prospect, and what chiefly determines me to the step, for there are many considerations against it, of sober and shadowy hue, economy, prudence, &c., &c., all which are best consulted in the country; but then I flatter myself I am become steady enough (with Bessy's aid, who is a very Minerva of economy) to resist all the town's temptations to expense; and then the times are getting cheaper, and I shall, I hope, be getting richer, and, to crown all, I shall see you and the Donegals—shall hear music—go laugh at Liston—go walk in Hyde Park, and a thousand other intellectual amusements. Here, I really am in a desert; if I go to a dinner, the dullness of the good people is like suffocation,—I can hardly draw my breath under it. I have hopes, too, that the change of scene may do poor Bessy service, who has fallen off in everything but her sweetness of heart, most sadly; but *you'll* take her by the hand kindly, and *that*, too, will do her good. *Au reste*, I am going on as usual, at the easy rate of ten lines a day, with but little interruption. I made a figure at Derby the other day, at a Lancastrian dinner, where I spoke about fifteen speeches, which astonished not only the company, but myself. I have got half-entangled with my Derby friend, Strutt (you know my unlucky facilities in this way) to accompany him for a fortnight to Paris, in a month or two hence. I am certainly most anxious to take a peep at it before another Revolution, perhaps, lays it in ashes; and as Strutt, I believe, gives me a seat in his carriage, I may not find the opportunity amiss. My ambition has long been to see it with a very different sort of companion, namely, yourself; and who knows but even this may happen some fine spring or other? but the Louvre!—the pictures!—'and echo answers, where are they?' Oh, what a pity I wasn't with you last summer!

"Give my best regards to your sister, who I hope does not forget Bessy, but will let her come to Highbury with us sometimes.

"Ever, my dear Rogers, most truly yours,

"THOMAS MOORE."

From Samuel Rogers, Esq.

"Tuesday, April 12, 1814.

"My dear Moore,

"I have indeed thought it long since you

received my last letter, but I am glad you have not quite forgot me. You must now be growing more and more an object of envy every day, with your woods and your meadows, and your rural neighbours. Have the scarlet cloaks yet made their appearance before your windows? You live in the fields, you say; pray what are you doing there? Lord Byron, as you know, has removed into Albany, and lives in an apartment, I should think thirty by forty feet. He is satisfied with the 'Quarterly Review,' and I am glad G. Ellis has let him off so gently, for I suspect they have no good-will towards us. Some years ago, I delivered a message to you from those said Reviewers, which you answered as I knew you would do. I have now a commission of a much pleasanter kind, and I hope it will meet with more success. I send you Jeffrey's letter *in confidence*; it was not, perhaps, intended to be seen; but it will speak best for itself. Perhaps you had better write such an answer to it, addressed to me, as I can send to Jeffrey; not, however, discovering in it that you have seen the very letter itself. I must say I think it would be a respectable thing at least to have written two or three articles in the 'Review.' Your name will be studiously circulated by Mackintosh, Brougham, Horner, Playfair, and Jeffrey, and they may be such as may afterwards, with slight alteration, be re-published in another form. Campbell wrote one article,—'A General Review of English Poetry;'—and I have often heard it mentioned with praise. What a dream have we had lately! A man a fortnight ago disdained to accept the throne of Louis XIV., and now retires to a little island in the Mediterranean on a pension of 250,000*l.* per annum. How could he overlook Caprea? I am glad you like the 'Wanderer.' I have not read it, but here it is not liked. Mr. P— of Iona is to me unknown.

"SAMUEL ROGERS."

From James Perry, Esq.

"Strand, July 25, 1814.

"My dear Sir,

"I have had a friendly conversation with Mr. Longman. I told him, of course, that I had no authority to enter into any negotiation with him; but that, as your friend, I should be happy to communicate to you any proposal that he might wish to make to you on the sub-

ject of your poem. He said that he was most desirous to treat for it,—that he understood from Mr. Orme I had mentioned the sum of 3,000 guineas as the price that I thought you should fix upon it,—and that this sum was so large as to make him desirous of seeing the copy of the poem before he made up his mind. He begged to be understood that he felt the most perfect confidence in you, and was ready to own that no one but yourself could be entitled to ask such a price; but that from long experience he conceived himself capable of judging of the probable demand that there would be for the work, and it would satisfy his mind if he could have an opportunity of forming this judgment. At the same time he said he would pledge himself to you that no other human being should see it, for he wanted no advice on the matter.

"This is, in short, the substance of our conversation; it run into some length, and he spoke with the greatest admiration of your talents. His anxiety as to previously looking into the poem arose simply from the experience, that so much depended on the catching nature of the subject, as to the popularity and rapidity of its run. He was sure of the intrinsic poetical beauty, of the strength and harmony of the versification, the warmth of the passion, and the brilliancy of the images, &c. All that he wished to ascertain was the character and design of the fable. You will be the only judge of your conduct on this proposal. I did no more than say that I should faithfully consult you, and let him know your feeling on the matter. I think him quite in earnest as to his wish to treat. Of his judgment in the way of anticipating the popularity of a poem I can form no estimate. There may be a bookseller's knack; but I foresee an obvious inconvenience in this mode of treating. If after seeing the copy he should hesitate in giving the sum, or attempt to chaffer, he might wound your delicacy, and even injure the character of the work, by saying that he had refused it. I am not sure, therefore, my dear sir, whether I ought not to tell you my own sentiment on the matter, which is frankly to decline the previous communication. If you agree to show it, I shall say that it is not merely a proof of the high confidence you have in his honour, but of your own most liberal and generous nature, since you thereby incur a risk which you might safely avoid.

"I need not tell you that I shall execute your commands literally; and I shall have great pleasure if I can do it to your satisfaction. I envy you the enjoyment of fresh air this delightful weather. I have as yet no news from Mrs. Perry, and I am sick with anxiety, as it is a month since she sailed from Lisbon for Bourdeaux.

"With respects to Mrs. Moore, believe me to be,

"My dear Sir,

"Your faithful Servant,

"JA. PERRY."

To Samuel Rogers, Esq.

Mayfield, Sunday night, 1814.

"My dear Rogers,

"I have taken it for granted that you have all been too occupied with your sovereigns, &c., to give one thought to an humble cottager like myself, and have accordingly refrained from interrupting your 'emperatorial' (as the Myronian Gallery has it) delirium, till the fever had been well sweated off in balls and processions. From what I read in the papers, I conclude that, mad as London has often been, it never was so gloriously mad before; and if I could have known with certainty that another week would have brought on the fit, I should have been very glad to have waited to witness it, though, as it is, I feel so happy and quiet once more with my cottage, and my Bessy, and my books, and my Barbara, that I cannot say I much regret the loss; and I shall the less care about it, if you will write me a long account of all that has been *ridiculous* (for *that* is the best part, after all) in these shows and ceremonies. How does 'our fat friend' go on? among all these fighting chieftains, he seems particularly to distinguish himself in what is called *fighting shy*. Is he or is he *not* hissed wherever he goes? and is the Princess of W. likely to survive Paul Methuen's speeches in her favour? Tell me all these important points, and likewise, whether you faced the sovereigns in full dress anywhere, and whether they expressed curiosity to see any of *us Authors*, or were merely contented with the Prince Regent, and such food as their worthy chamberlain catered for them? Were they civil to the Opposition, and did Lady Jersey tell them, as she told Prince Paul and many others, that the Regent was a '*bête*'?"

I *hope* she did.—You see I leave you no excuse for withholding news from me, for I put all the questions that I wish to have answered, and as the Sovereigns leave town on Tuesday, you will have time to attend a little to *me*.

“Poor Bessy is beginning to cry out a little, and I should hope in my next letter I shall have to announce the dear girl’s safe recovery; her delight at my return, and her gratitude for my hastening it, more than repaid me for a hundred such sacrifices. I have written but sixty lines of my work since I came down; it really required some time to recall my emigrant thoughts, and establish order in the capital again; but I shall now go on vigorously.

“Where is Jacqueline? * *she* too, I fear, has suffered in this bustle of royalty. Do send her down here as soon as possible out of such company. Ever yours,

“T. MOORE.”

“Pray remember me to your sister. One of the things I have thought of since I came away is, how *very* little I saw of your brother Henry while I was in town.”

From Samuel Rogers, Esq.

“Brighton, Aug. 19, 1814.

“My dear Moore,

“I hope by this time you are relieved from all your anxieties, and Psyche from her miscalculations, and that in your next, addressed to me at the *Poste Restante*, Geneva, I shall hear that all is as you wish. I am here on the sea-shore with my sister and Mackintosh, who both desire to be most kindly remembered to you. We have secured a cabin in the ‘*Nautilus*,’ and in three hours shall be on the great ocean. To-morrow we hope to breakfast at Dieppe, and to arrive in Paris on Tuesday. There we propose to spend three or four days, and then press on to the Ice-Mountains in Switzerland. I wish with all my heart that you were with us, my dear Moore, and so do we all; but as that is impossible (a human soul with all your intelligence, in a human frame with all her sensibilities, being bound hither, from what pre-existent state I know not), all I can do is to tell you of my regret, and to send you the

* Jacqueline, published with *Lara*, and called by Lord Byron “Larry and Jacky.”

last bit of paper I shall scrawl upon before I leave England. Lord B. has been at Hastings; he is now in London, and I had a glimpse of him in his *vis-a-vis* the day I left Town, but his sister was with him,—so much did not pass between us. He talks of instantly setting off for Paris. Murray, I hear, has sold 10,000 copies of ‘*Lara*.’ Jeffrey’s review of him has delighted him much. I am happy to hear of your prose, though I could wish you had overlooked poor Lord T. I hope your verse is as flourishing. An Epistle the other day in the ‘*Chronicle*’ I could not mistake; but, I will confess to you, exquisite as it is, I wish you would take up your satirical pen and throw it into the bottomless pit. Write a *Lutrin*, a *Vert-vert*, a *Rape of the Lock*, though, if you will; and I flatter myself, when the Peris have ceased to be your nightly visitants, that you will do some such thing. Lady Donegal and Miss G. are now, as you know, at Tunbridge. Your friend, the Regent, is here, and probably in the arms of Morpheus at this moment; though the god must envy Atlas himself this weather. How long we shall remain abroad I cannot say—set a beggar on horseback, &c. &c.;—but I hope to see you, or your annual Revelation of yourself, in May next. Pray give my love to the Madonna della Sedia—for such she is by this time again, I hope—with her babes about her; and believe me to be,

“Ever yours,

“S. R.”

To Samuel Rogers, Esq.

“Donnington, Monday, Aug. 29, 1814.

“My dear Rogers,

“This is by way of answer to a letter of yours which I have *not* received; for I left home on Tuesday last, and Bessy tells me there is a letter from you waiting me there. I am come for a few days’ rummage of the Library on the subject of the *Fathers*, which is to form one of my articles for Jeffrey. People will be a little surprised, I think, at my leaving the mothers and daughters, to take to the *Fathers*; but, heaven knows! it is time for me—a third child! only think. My dear Bessy got over it very safely and stoutly, and I left her coming on as well as possible. I took the Derby Races and Ball

in my way hither, and met a very tolerable cluster of London stars there : your old friend Miss Fawkener in the character of Mrs. Henry Cavendish ; which connection I was so totally ignorant of, that I told her I was quite surprised to meet her in Derbyshire ! The Duke of Devonshire has given me a very kind invitation to Chatsworth for next Thursday, to meet the Harringtons, and stay a week ; but I do not think I shall go. I have no servant to take with me, and my hat is shabby, and the seams of my best coat are beginning to look white, and—in short, if a man cannot step upon equal ground with these people, he had much better keep out of their way. I can meet them on pretty fair terms at a dinner or a ball ; but a whole week in the same house with them detects the poverty of a man's ammunition deplorably ; to which, if we add that I should detect the poverty of *theirs* in *another way*, I think the obvious conclusion is, that we ought to have nothing to do with each other. At the same time, I think the Duke one of the civillest persons in the whole Peerage ; and he took every opportunity of speaking kindly and familiarly to me at Derby.

"Are you thinking of France ? I have put it out of my head for some time, upon many accounts. This reviewing, and my Sixth Number of 'Melodies,' has thrown me back considerably in my work ; and if I let pass this next season without producing it, I fear it will turn out a *fausse couche* entirely. I am more anxious than ever that you should keep my secret about the *plan* and the *title*, as I really am so nervous upon the matter, that I have serious thoughts of passing off a pious fraud upon the public, and saying, when I publish these Tales, that they have merely sprung out of the poem I have been employed upon, and that I reserve *that* for publication at some future period. This will not only take away all air of pretension from the Tales, but it will keep indulgence alive by giving a hope of something better unproduced. Don't betray me ;—no one but yourself and Bessy knows the truth ; and I will not venture to ask your opinion upon the *morality* of the step, lest you should say something to scare me out of it. For my own part, I think every possible trick fair with that animal *ferè nature*, the Public.

"How do 'Lara' and 'Jacqueline' get on ? I see them on every table ; so I suppose they prosper. There are some of our fair neighbours who read 'Jacqueline' much oftener than their prayer-books.

"Ever, my dear Rogers, yours most truly,
"THOMAS MOORE.

"I shall not get your letter (to which this is an answer) before Wednesday evening."

From Samuel Rogers, Esq.

"Venice, Oct. 17, 1814.

"My dear Moore,

"Last night in my gondola I made a vow I would write you a letter if it was only to beg you would write to me at Rome. Like the great Marco Polo, however, whose tomb I saw to-day, I have a secret wish to astonish you with my travels, and would take you with me, as you would not go willingly, from London to Paris, and from Paris to the Lake of Geneva, and so on to this city of romantic adventure, the place from which he started. I set out in August last, with my sister and Mackintosh. He parted with us in Switzerland, since which time we have travelled on together ; and happy should we have been could you and Psyche have made a quartett of it. I hope all her predictions have long ago been fulfilled to your mind, and that she, and you, and the bambini are all as snug and as happy as you can wish to be. By the way, I forgot one of your family, who, I hope, is still under your roof. I mean one of nine sisters—the one I have more than once made love to. With another of them, too, all the world knows your *good fortune*. Apropos of love, and such things, is Lord Byron to be married to Miss Millbanke, at last ? I have heard it. But to proceed to business ; Chamouny, and the Mer de Glace, Voltaire's chamber at Ferney, Gibbon's terrace at Lausanne, Rousseau's Isle of St. Pierre, the Lake of Lucerne, and the little Cantons, the passage over the Alps, the Lago Maggiore, Milan, Verona, Padua, Venice,—what shall I begin with ? but I believe I must refer you to my three Quartos on the subject, whenever they choose to appear. The most wonderful thing we have seen is Bonaparte's road over the Alps—as smooth as that in Hyde Park, and not steeper than St. James's Street.

We left Savoy at seven in the morning, and slept at Domo Dossola in Italy that night. For twenty miles we descended through a mountain-pass, as rocky, and often narrower, than the *narrowest* part of Dovedale; the road being sometimes cut out of the mountain, and three times carried through it, leaving the torrent (and such a torrent!) to work its way by itself. The passages or galleries, as I believe the French engineers call them, were so long as to require large openings here and there for light; and the roof was hung with icicles, which the carriage shattered as it passed along, and which fell to the ground with a shrill sound. We were eight hours in climbing to the top, and only three in descending. Our wheel was never locked, and our horses were almost always on a gallop. But I must talk to you a little about Venice. I cannot tell you what I felt, when the postillion turned gaily round, and, pointing with his whip, cried out, 'Venezia!' For there it was, sure enough, with its long line of domes and turrets glittering in the sun. I walk about here all day long in a dream. Is that the Rialto? I say to myself. Is this St. Mark's Place? Do I see the Adriatic? I think if you and I were together here, my dear Moore, we might manufacture something from the *ponte dei sospiri*, the *scala dei giganti*, the *piombi*, the *pozzi*, and the thousand ingredients of mystery and terror that are here at every turn. Nothing can be more luxurious than a gondola and its little black cabin, in which you can fly about unseen, the gondoliers so silent all the while. They dip their oars as if they were afraid of disturbing you; yet you fly. As you are rowed through one of the narrow streets, often do you catch the notes of a guitar, accompanied by a female voice, through some open window; and at night, on the Grand Canal, how amusing is it to observe the moving lights (every gondola has its light), one now and then shooting across at a little distance, and vanishing into a smaller canal. Oh, if you had any pursuit of love or pleasure, how nervous would they make you, not knowing their contents or their destination! and how infinitely more interesting, as more mysterious, their silence, than the noise of carriage-wheels! Before the steps of the Opera-house, they are drawn up in array,

with their shining prows of white metal, waiting for the company. One man remains in your boat, while the other stands at the door of your loge. When you come out, he attends you down, and calling 'Pietro,' or 'Giacomo,' is answered from the water, and away you go. The gliding motion is delightful, and would calm you after any scene in a casino. The gondolas of the Foreign Ministers carry the national flag. I think you would be pleased with an Italian theatre. It is lighted only from the stage, and the soft shadows that are thrown over it produce a very visionary effect. Here and there the figures in a box are illuminated from within, and glimmering and partial lights are almost magical. Sometimes the curtains are drawn, and you may conceive what you please. This is indeed a fairy land, and Venice particularly so. If at Naples you see most with the eye, and at Rome with the memory, surely at Venice you see most with the imagination. But enough of Venice. To-morrow we bid adieu to it,—most probably I shall never see it again. We shall pass through Ferrara to Bologna, then cross the Apennines to Florence, and so on to Rome, where I shall look for a line from you.

"Pray, have you sermonized the discordant brothers? I hope you have, and not forgotten yourself on the occasion. When you write to Tunbridge, pray remember me. Tell Lady D. I passed the little Lake of Lowertz, and saw the melancholy effects of the downfall. It is now a scene of desolation, and the little town of Goldau is buried many fathom deep. It is a sad story, and you shall have it when we meet. I received a very kind letter from her at Tunbridge, and mean to answer it. I hope to meet you in London-town, when you visit it next; at least I shall endeavour to do so. My sister unites with me in kindest remembrance to Mrs. Moore; and pray, pray believe me to be,

"Yours ever,
"S. R.

"At Verona we were shown Juliet's tomb in a Convent garden! In the evening we went to the play, but saw neither Mercutio, nor 'the two Gentlemen' there."

To Miss Godfrey.

"Oct. 29, 1814.

"I ought to have written much oftener lately (I mean much oftener than—not at all) but that I have been most overwhelmingly busy, making up for a whole month's idleness, which was inflicted on me by a visit from my musical friend, Sir John Stevenson. We did something, however, in Power's way, with whom I am again to start, as before, next March. This was my own wish, as I am anxious to keep the rest of this year unencumbered by any more jobs for him, and free for the final completion of my never-long-enough-to-be-expected poem. I suppose you have, before this, seen my *débüt* as a reviewer. I have heard nothing of it but from Jeffrey and Byron; the former of whom says 'nothing can be more entertaining or more cleverly written;' and the latter, 'There is wit, taste, and learning in every line of that critique, and by G—— I think you can do anything.' My article upon Mr. Boyd's Translations from the Fathers is to be in the next number; and then, I think, I have done.

"I am sorry, very sorry, to hear that dear Lady Donegal still suffers from those attacks, and I really think the sooner she tries other air and other scenes, the better. It is a sad thing to think that there is such sweet sunshine going on in France and Italy, which we might all be enjoying instead of coughing and shivering through the fogs of this most unamiable climate. How *nice* it would be (you recollect my old word) if you should be starting next year at the same time that I set out on my experimental or pioneer visit to prepare the way there for the transportation of my whole family. This is a wicked trick of Mr. Vansittart's, if true, to send the income-tax riding double after all travellers. He sticks to one like the little old man in the 'Arabian Nights.'

"My good Bessy is very well, and getting up her looks again; but I am sorry to see this last little one has increased her figure a good deal; and I very much fear she will grow large. She does not like the idea of going to France, and has hopes that I shall be disappointed and give up my resolution, when I have seen it myself; but she makes no difficulties about anything I wish, and I know she

would soon get reconciled to the change; but still it is very possible that what she looks to may happen, and that I shall not like the country well enough, upon trial, to make it my residence. The moment I mention its cheapness all her objections vanish. Tell me a little of what you hear about it in this respect when you write.

"I agree with you that a great part of 'Lara' is very prosy and somnific; but it has many striking parts, and the death is very fine. 'Lara's' waiting-maid, poor *Jacqueline*, is in general, I find, thought rather *niaise* than otherwise; which I am sorry for, as Rogers sets his heart upon fame, and his heart is a good one, that deserves what it wishes.

"You must not mind the blunders and blots in this letter, as I write it after dinner, with Barbara on my back.

"Ever affectionately, with love to Lady D., and kindest remembrances to *Philly*.

"Yours,
"T. M."

From Miss Godfrey.

"Tunbridge Wells, Nov. 12, 1814.

"You should have heard long since how pleased we were with your *Petit Tableau de Famille*. If we had not been so very much occupied in restoring the Bourbons to the throne of their ancestors—that job being performed to the astonishment of all mankind—one may now quietly sit down and ask oneself whether one is really awake, or only in a sort of extraordinary dream; and as I am at present pretty sure of being awake, I just civilly beg to know what you think of it all? Have you no ode, satire, or ballad ready for the occasion, and will you let that greatest of tyrants make his exit without hissing him off the stage? Have you seen Lord Byron's ode? They say it was written in five minutes. I think it was a pity he did not take a quarter of an hour, and make it more perfect. It is not a bad outline; at least one rejoices so in the subject, that one is disposed to judge favourably of the poem. You will rejoice to hear that our Most Gracious Regent is in the third heaven, and attributes every wonderful event now passing in the world to his own great talents. To say the truth, I am not surprised at his delight, for he has been in a most glorious run of luck.

Bab was presented to Louis XVIII. and the Duchess d'Angoulême at their drawing-rooms, and was very much pleased with them both. The King has a happy talent of expressing himself, and has gratified several people by *à propos* compliments. Among others, the Grattans. He said to James Grattan, that he must congratulate him upon being the son of such a father. It is said to be an absolute fact, that Bonaparte expressed a wish to be let live in this country, as he felt a reliance upon the generosity of the English character. I think it was a great compliment. When do you think of coming to town? Pray come soon, and look on a little at the wonders of the day. The Emperor of Russia is to be here in a fortnight, and the Duchess of Oldenburg is established here for the present. They say she inherits all the talents of Catherine, with a pleasing appearance and very captivating manners. If you get a cheap little lodging, it will be your only expense; for as to breakfast, dinner, and supper, you know you have always more waiting for you in every corner of the town than you can possibly eat. If Bessy comes with you, she will always find us too happy to have her, and only regretting that we have no bed to offer her. So pray, dear Moore, let us hear that you have arranged all your plans to pay us a visit very soon. Bring your poem with you, and publish it; for it really is time to send it forth to seek its fortune. Rogers' friendship for us has all oozed out, like Acres', and we are here waiting till that happy moment arrives. We have outlived everybody at Tunbridge except the Fincastles, Hopes, Rogers, and Lady Ellenborough. The Fincastles grow upon me; I am always pleased in their society. * * * William Spencer has been here from time to time for a week, but never longer. He wrote a prologue for Lady Susan's play, and another little thing, that I will copy for you in this letter if I can. It was written upon seeing a rose-tree between two willows.

"Yon lonely rose, that climbs the eaves,
How bright its dew-dropp'd tint appears!
As if Aurora on its leaves
Had left her blushes with her tears.

"And see two drooping willows nigh,
What heat their sickly foliage blanches!
As if a lover's burning sigh
Won all the gale that fann'd their branches.

"Ah! wish ye not, pale plants of woe,
Yon rose's blooming state your own?
Methinks I hear them murmur, 'No;
Yon rose is blooming—but alone!

"Know'st thou two hearts by love subdued?
Ask them which fate they covet, whether
Health, joy, and life in solitude,
Or sickness, grief, and death together."

"I suppose no woman in her sound mind ever wrote any man so long a letter before. Well, I shall be more moderate the next time. Philly desires her compliments to your sister (why should not I do the same?), and her love to you. Yours, very truly and sincerely,
"M. G.

"Say kind things for us to Lady Charlotte Rawdon. Do you see her much?"

To Miss Dalby.

"1815.

"My dear Mary,

"You will, I am sure, be sorry at the news Bessy has given you; and I assure you, *you* and the sweet fields about us are the *only* regrets we have in the place ourselves; but what can we do? *Shaw* will not let me have *this* house, and you will not make Mr. Milward let me have his, and with those children in this nutshell I should get crazy (or rather *cracked*, as it's a nutshell); but come see us *you must* as soon as the weather grows fine, and we will then arrange about 'annihilating both space and time' for our meetings hereafter.

"I am writing away hard and fast, both at my Poem and the 'Sacred Melodies.' My week at Chatsworth was very delightful. You cannot imagine what a sensation my 'Song to the Prince' produced (which is now four verses): copies were sent off in all directions to all possible Whig lords and ladies.

"Bessy is very indignant at Lady London's calling her 'little.' She says it is all owing to *me* that she is supposed to be little.

"Yours ever,

"T. MOORE."

To Samuel Rogers Esq.

"Mayfield Cottage, Monday, May 22, 1815.

"Welcome, my dear Rogers, most welcome back again. I was beginning to feel seriously anxious about you, and feared very much I should not hear any tidings of you before my

departure—yes, my departure. You have caught me upon the wing for Ireland: this very evening we set off. I have long, you know, been promising my dear mother a sight of her new relations; and, anxious as I was myself to see them altogether, I would willingly have still deferred it a little longer; but the declining health of my mother, and poor Bessy's very delicate state, both in spirits and health, since the loss of our last little child (Olivia Byron), have altogether determined me to sacrifice my own convenience to their gratification. The sight of her little grandchildren will be new life to my mother, and the change of scene and air will be sure to do Bessy service. You will hear from our friends in town that I had determined upon a trip thither, and I now more than ever regret my inability to achieve it, as I should have had at least one shake of the hand from you; but the exchequer was not adequate to the two journeys, and I was obliged to sacrifice London to Dublin. I shall return myself in August; but if the sea-bathing agrees with Bessy, I shall prevail upon her to stay behind me as long as she can take advantage of it.

"I have sold my *Poem* (for so it must be called still) for three thousand pounds! There will of course be a revision of the contract, and perhaps a retraction, when I disclose the real nature of the work; but I have gained at least the tribute to my reputation, and I do not much fear any *considerable* diminution of the sum, when they find the same quantum of poetry they have bargained for (5000 lines!), but divided into tales instead of one continued poem. Pray keep my secret about it with your accustomed fidelity. Your calling it 'my tales' in your letter quite startled me—I felt as if the whole thing were known,—for I never call it anything but my poem.

"I cannot write any more now, for we are in the very agonies of packing; but you shall hear from me from Dublin.

"Your letter from Venice I received, but not till the end of March, when I knew it would be useless to answer it. It made me unhappy for days. How I envy you!

"Best regards to your sister. The next time we meet, my dear Rogers, it will be, I hope, for a *long spell*.

"Ever, ever yours most affectionately,
"THOMAS MOORE."

To Samuel Rogers, Esq.

June 7, 1815.

"My dear Rogers,

"I snatch one moment from the bustle of greetings and visitings that assail us here, to tell you of our safe arrival and the thousand hearty welcomes we have met with. If we had as many hands as Briareus, they would be all nearly shaken off. My friend Richard Power, who is now in England, has lent us his house (one of the best in Dublin with an excellent library,) during our stay, and all Dublin is at our doors, in carriages, cars, tillburies, and jingles, from morning till night, to the no small astonishment of a Derbyshire maid we have brought with us to take care of the little ones. The sight of us has been quite a renewal of the lease of life to my dear good mother and father, and I had the happiest dinner among them all on my birthday,—*far* the happiest I have enjoyed for a long time. They loved Bessy *upon trust*, before they saw her, and the little children are never out of their arms. We are going to pay some visits at country-houses next week, amongst others to Lord Granard's, and altogether I shall have but little breathing-time till my return to the dear cottage, which I hope to achieve before the end of August, and to which (in spite of all the cordial chaos about me) I look forward with a feeling most ungratefully impatient.

"I have seen Curran once; he talked of the 'intensity' of your attachment to me, and, for once, I hoped his style was not exaggerative. Of Lord Moira, too, he spoke much, but in a far different strain:—'I have mourned over him; I have held an inquest upon the carcass of his dead fame, &c. &c. ;' and then finished by a climax quite characteristic of his eloquence,—'that, in short, it was but too true he (Lord M——) had a great dash of the Piper about him!' Notwithstanding all this bad taste, there is nothing like him for fancy.

"Do, my dear Rogers, let me hear from you as soon as possible, and direct, 7 Kildare Street, Dublin. Bessy, I hope, is somewhat better, though she hardly knows how she is in this eternal bustle. She has this instant looked over me, and bid me not forget 'her love.'

"Best remembrances to your sister, from,

"Ever faithfully yours,
"THOMAS MOORE."

To Lady Donegal,

“Kilfane, July 3, 1815.

“Your letter, which Arthur gave me in Dublin, found me so whirled about in visitings, dinnerings, hand-shakings, &c., that I had not a moment to myself, and I know you would forgive my deferring my answer till I got a little out of the bustle. Our reception, indeed, has been highly flattering and gratifying, and the attention every one has paid to Bessy is as creditable to themselves as it is pleasant to her and me. We are now with Richard Power’s brother, who has a most beautiful place here, and gives us a very hospitable welcome. We have been with the Bryans for a week or ten days, and a few days with Joe Atkinson’s daughter, Mrs. T. Kearney. Next week we return to Dublin, that Bessy may get a little sea-bathing, which has been ordered as quite necessary for her; and thence we have two more visits to make, to the Duke of Leinster and Lord Granard, if the latter family shall have sufficiently recovered their grief for poor Hastings* to admit us. What fearful and wonderful things are happening! Tragedy and farce come so mixed up together, that to do justice to the world, we ought to be like the grimacier at Astley’s, and cry at one side of the face while we laugh with the other. I suppose it is all over with the Great Nation, and with the Napoleons, both great and small. His Imperial Majesty, I perceive, is coming quietly to England, and you will perhaps have an opportunity of letting your house in Davies Street to him; though I rather think you would burn it to the ground after such profanement, as the gentleman did with his mansion after the Constable Bourbon had slept in it. I am afraid you and I would have some little squabbles about the poor Bourbons if we were together just now; and I hope, for the sake of your repose in this very hot wheather, that all the persons around you are thorough coinciding, sympathising, and never-ceasing Tories. Reprobate as am, I am sure you will give credit to my prudence and good-taste in declining the grand public dinner that was about to be given me upon my arrival in Dublin. I found there were too many of your favourites; the Catholic orators, at the bottom of the design,—that the fountain of honour was too much of a *holy-*

water fount for me to dabble in it with either safety or pleasure; and, though I should have liked mightily the opportunity of making a treasonable speech or two after dinner, I thought the wisest thing I could do was to decline the honour. Being thus disappointed in *me*, they have given a grand public dinner to an eminent toll-gatherer, whose patriotic and *elephant* method of collecting the tolls entitles him, I have no doubt, to the glory of such a celebration. Alas! alas! it must be confessed that our poor country, altogether, is a most wretched concern; and as for the Catholics (as I have just said in a letter written within these five minutes) one would heartily wish them all in their own Pugatory, if it were not for their adversaries, whom one wishes *still further*.

“I have written to Lord Byron about your Tunbridge friend, though I fear the application will have but little success. Did you hear that *I* was applied to to join the Committee?

“Bessy, as you may collect from what I have already said, is not very strong; but the little ones are quite well, and go about with us everywhere.

“Best love to dear Mary, and believe me, ever

“Most affectionately yours,
“T. MOORE.”

To Samuel Rogers, Esq.

“Dublin, Aug. 9, 1815.

“My dear Rogers,

“I am most anxious to hear something about you. I’m sure you do not like me *in Ireland*, for you never write to me here. There are now two able and full-grown epistles of mine unanswered near three months. However, on matter for that, I do seriously believe that they who *bottle up* their remembrance of each other have it in much higher order and effervescence when they meet, than they who let it out, drop by drop, through the post-office; and I can answer at least for my own being at this moment as strong, cordial, and *racy* as ever, my dear Rogers.

“We have made two country tours since I wrote to you, and are now just returned from a three weeks’ visit to my married sister in Tipperary. Alas! it would be but a poor return for your delicious pictures of Italy—your ‘thoughts that breathed’ of the sweet air in which they were born, and your ‘words that burned’ with the pure sunshine which they

* Honourable Hastings Forbes, killed at Waterloo.

described, to give you any account of what I either felt or saw in the foggy, boggy regions of Tipperary. The only thing I could match you in is *banditti*; and if you can imagine groups of ragged Shanavests (as they are called) going about in noonday, armed and painted over like Catabaw Indians, to murder tithe-proctors, land-valuers, &c., you have the most stimulant specimen of the sublime that Tipperary affords. The country, indeed, is in a frightful state; and rational remedies have been delayed so long, that nothing but the sword will answer now. We lost a visit to the Grattans by this barbarous trip—a sort of sacrifice which I am often obliged to make, but which *your sçavoir-faire* so happily always extricates you from. On our return to town last week, in high spirits at the prospect of sailing immediately for England, and getting back to our dear, *doubly* dear cabin once more, poor Bessy had to encounter the shock of finding our darling Barbara (whom we left at my father's) dangerously ill of a bilious fever. Nothing could be more unseasonably distressing. She is now, however, recovering rapidly; and if in a week after the receipt of this you will sit down, like a good fellow, and answer it, your letter may find me, I trust, at Mayfield Cottage.

"Persia, of course, has suffered by Tipperary; but I shall work double tides to make it up again.

"Best regards to your sister, from hers and yours faithfully,

"THOMAS MOORE."

To Mary Godfrey.

"Mayfield Cottage, Thursday night, Oct. 19, 1815.

"There is nothing like demanding an answer by return of post. It is the only way with such correspondents as I am, and I wish you always had some baron or other to put me in requisition, for many is the self-reproach it would save me; but I know no more of said baron than of the man in the moon, nor has William Spencer (who will be 'responsible,' poor fellow! for any thing but his debts) ever written me a single line on the subject; you know, however, I cannot give words for music to any one but Power. I am bound hand and foot,—at least my lyrical *feet*,—and you may tell the baron it would cost me five hundred a year to give him even so much as a 'Down

derry down' of my own composition. Strange that such penalty should be on Tweedle-dum and Tweedle-dee, but so it is, and you can swear to it, for you read the deed. We arrived here two or three weeks since, after the most anxious journey I ever had to encounter. Poor Bessy (who was by no means well when we embarked) suffered so much on a long and sickening passage, from her own illness and attention to the children, that on our arrival at Holyhead, she was most alarmingly indisposed, and it was with great delay and many difficulties that I was able to get her along the road at all. The sight of her own little home, however, and the comfort of being there after the very bothering bustle of our Irish visit, was like magic in restoring her, and though she is still very weak, I have great hopes that rest and care will bring her about again. Among other welcome things that greeted me at home, was your *thrice*-welcome letter from Tunbridge, and if yours were but 'generous letters that no answer wait,' or if there were any way in which you could know how thoroughly they delight me, and how warmly I remember you both every hour of my existence, without my taking a dirty pen in my hand to tell you so, the whole pleasure of the thing would be as unalloyed as it is delightful; but since it is impossible, I suppose, for me to enjoy that perfection of friendly correspondence, where (as Sir Boyle Roche says) 'the reciprocity would be all on one side,' and where you alone should write and I should read, I must only endeavour to muster up as *much* reciprocity as possible, and if you will even give me two letters for one, I shall be satisfied.

"I am returning to work again, but the idleness of our Irish trip, and the necessity of completing my year's job for Power, make sad havoc in my time and thoughts. How unlucky I have been in not seeing Paris before it was 'shorn of its beams!' Often do I think with regret of the opportunity, the golden one, you gave me and I missed. It is a proof perhaps that my life has not been *very* miserable, when I say that the loss of that opportunity is one of the things I *most* regret in the course of it. How do you like the way your friends, the legitimates, are disposing of the world? At all events, the ball is completely at their feet, and we shall see whether old women

priests and fat regents, assisted by French renegades and drunken corporals, are, after all, the best agents of Providence for the welfare of mankind. I suppose they are, at least it is but loyal to think so. The boxing epistle *is* mine, the only thing of the kind I have done for a long time.

"I have written often to Byron about your Tunbridge friend; but he seems to say, like King Arthur, 'petition me no petitions,' and will not mind me; I will try Kinnaird next.

"Love and regards from both to both.

"Ever yours,

"T. M."

From Mary Godfrey.

"Nov. 6, 1815.

"As I have the happy talent of believing everything I wish to believe from those that I like, I take *au pied de la lettre* all the kind and flattering things you say to us in your last letter; and being very willing to pay any price for the pleasure of hearing from you, we agree to the proposal of sending you two letters for your one; and, I assure you, if you knew the aversion I have taken to writing and Bab's idleness upon that subject, you would understand in some degree how much we value your letters. We were quite amused at the way William Spencer had done the honours of you to the poor Baron, who was in despair at his disappointment. It seems Mazinghi (I really don't know how to spell the man's name, if I were to die for it) told him that he knew you could not assist him on account of your engagement with Power. But William Spencer said that was all fudge; he would settle that with you. Bab is very busy preparing for a visit to Windsor to-morrow. She is to be in the Castle and to spend a few days there. She implores you, for her sake, to spare all the females of that family and the Duke of York. The Princesses are the greatest admirers of your Melodies, and even of the last. The Princess Augusta has composed very pretty variations to 'Love's Young Dream.' And these are the Princess Elizabeth's own words in a letter written about a month ago: 'My music goes on ill without I am tempted to sing an Irish Melody. I hear that your friend Anacreon Moore is bringing, or has brought out another set. How lovely is his taste!' Bab trembles lest

anything in this Cumberland* business should tempt your wicked pen; but she knows for her sake you will resist temptation this once. As to our fat and gracious Regent, he is very much at your service to do whatever you like with him, though, to say the truth, you have done pretty well for him already. I wish Bessy would copy your boxing epistle and send it to us. We are sincerely glad to hear she is recovering. Alas! I fear the air of Ireland is good for none but rebels. When is your poem to be ready for the press; and when shall we see you again? Walter Scott's 'Waterloo' is not the Duke of Wellington's Waterloo. It is by all accounts a very poor performance. I have not seen it yet, nor am I very impatient about it, as I have read the gazette of that grand battle, in which it is better described, and just as poetically, as I am told. Money, however, is his object; and besides what he makes by this poem, he is to publish his 'Travels to the Netherlands,' the price agreed on, before he set out, five hundred pounds. Rogers is just returned from Paris, and in the very extreme of agreeableness.

"The post bell rings; so farewell. Very kind remembrances to Bessy.

"Truly and sincerely yours,

"M. G."

To Samuel Rogers, Esq.

Mayfield Cottage, Dec. 26, 1815.

"My dear Rogers,

"As this is about the time you said you should be on your return to London, from your bright course through that noble Zodiac you've been moving in, I hasten to welcome you thither, not alas! with my hand, as I could wish,—that joy must not be for a few months longer,—but with my warmest congratulations on your safe and sound return from the Continent, and hearty thanks for your kind recollections of me—recollections, which I never want the outward and visible sign of letter-writing to assure me of, however delightful and welcome it may be, in addition to *knowing* that there's sweet music in the instrument, to *hear* a little of its melody now and then. This image will not stand your criticism, but you know its *meaning*, and that's enough—much more indeed

* The suicide of Sellis, the Duke of Cumberland's butler, which caused great scandal at the time.

than we Irish image-makers can in general achieve. My desire to see you for *yourself alone*, is still more whetted by all I hear of the exquisite gleanings you have made on your tour. The Donegals say you have seen so much, seen everything so well, and describe it all so picturesquely, that there is nothing like the treat of hearing you talk of your travels—how I long for that treat! You are a happy fellow, my dear Rogers; I know no one more *nourri des fleurs* of life, no one who lives so much 'apis matinae more' as yourself. The great regret of my future days (and I hope the *greatest*) will be my loss of the opportunity of seeing that glorious gallery, which, like those 'domes of Shadukiam and Amberabad,' that Nourmahal saw in the 'gorgeous clouds of the west,' is now dispersed and gone for ever. It is a loss that never can be remedied; but still perhaps our sacrifices are among our pleasantest recollections, and I ought not to feel sorry that the time and money, which would have procured for myself this great gratification, have been employed in making others happy,—better hearts than mine, and better happiness than *that* would have been. With respect to my *Peris*, thus stands the case, and remember that they are still to remain (where *Peris* best like to be) *under the rose*. I have nearly finished three tales, making, in all, about three thousand five hundred lines, but my plan is to have *five tales*, the stories of all which are arranged, and which I am *determined* to finish before I publish—no urgings nor wonderings nor tauntings shall induce me to lift the curtain till I have grouped these five subjects in the way I think best for variety and effect. I have already suffered enough by premature publication. I have formidable favourites to contend with, and must try to make up my deficiencies in *dash* and vigour by a greater degree, if possible, of versatility and polish. Now it will take, at the least, six thousand lines to complete this plan, *i. e.* between two and three thousand more than I have yet done. By May next I expect to have five thousand finished. This is the number for which the Longmans stipulated, and accordingly in May I mean to appear in London, and *nominally* deliver the work into their hands. It would be then too late (even if all were finished) to think of going to press;

so that I shall thus enjoy the credit with the Literary Quidnuncs of having completed my task, together with the advantage of the whole summer before me to extend it to the length I purpose. Such is the statement of my thousands, &c., which I am afraid you will find as puzzling as a speech of Mr. Vansittart's; but it is now near twelve o'clock at night, which being an hour later than our cottage rules allow, I feel it impossible to be luminous any longer—in which tendency to eclipse, my candle sympathises most gloomily.

"Your poor friend Psyche is by no means well. I was in hopes that our Irish trip would have benefited her; but her weakness and want of appetite continue most distressingly, and our cold habitation in the fields has now given her a violent cough, which if it does not soon get better, will alarm me exceedingly. I never love her so well as when she is ill, which is perhaps the best proof how *really* I love her. How do Byron and my Lady go on? there are strange rumours in the country about them.

"Ever yours, my dear Rogers,
"THOMAS MOORE."

From Lady Donegal.

Jan. 7, 1816.

"A thousand happy Christmases to you and yours, and a hundred thanks for your two little notes, particularly the last, which announces your intention of trusting yourself in this wicked town early in February; and so determined are we to have you all to ourselves, that we shall not name this intention to any one. And if we should be asked about you we intend to look very grave, and to lament over your love of the country, your never coming to town, &c. &c.; and so to reward us for this pious fraud you must breakfast, dine, and sup with us every day you are in London.

"Barbara sends you lines written by William Spencer on her names, which are many. He passed six weeks at Tunbridge this autumn, and was a great acquisition; at times, however, his spirits failed him, and one could not help feeling the greatest compassion for him. Then they would return again, and he would become the life and soul of the party. Rogers we have seen but twice since our return. Jekyll is become a dear friend of ours; and,

as I have not yet heard the same story twice, he amuses me very much. He talks of you with great regard for yourself, and admiration for your talents; besides which, he loves music passionately, and is delighted (if there is truth in man) with Barbara's playing. But, what is more to the purpose, Cramer, who is now giving her lessons, says that she plays 'charmingly.' We are anxious that you should hear her, and we intend to bore you to death about her music when you come.

"Do you know anything of St. Michan's Church in Dublin? Lord Clifden tells miraculous stories of the wonderful things lately discovered in the vaults, such as—I have not time to tell you now, for I am later than I thought I was. Our love to Bessy. Mary says she will not have little Thomas forgotten for your John Russell. Barbara says she should like to join in the practical jokes very much.

"Ever yours,
"B. D."

From Miss Godfrey.

"Monday, 1816.

"I have nothing to say for myself. With regard to my promise, I have broke it as gallantly as any French marshal could do. I think I shall behave better for the future—at least it is my intention, for I know I promise myself a great pleasure when I provoke a letter from you, and therefore I think I shall act no more *à la Française*, but adhere honourably to my engagements. I like Longman's gallantry to Bessy prodigiously, and I hope you will reward it without loss of time, by giving him an immediate opportunity of publishing your poem, which all the world is expecting with impatience. Bab, who is the most heroic and loyal of women, wants you to celebrate Waterloo, the Duke of Wellington, ditto of York, &c. &c. As to Walter Scott, he ought to be shot upon the field of battle as a peace offering to the manes of the illustrious dead whose deeds he has so ill recorded. Charity, that covers a multitude of sins, and does many other kind and good acts, certainly does not produce good poems. 'Waterloo' was written for the benefit of the subscription for the soldiers, as 'Don Roderick' was for the Portuguese; they are

both the worst things he has written, and not half so much to the purpose as a charity sermon. Rogers is wandering in the troubadour style from one great baron's castle to another, recounting his adventures. Whether the ladies of the castles reward him with their smiles or not I have not heard, but I am sure he tells his story admirably well. He has seen every thing so well, and tells it all so distinctly, and is so picturesque and so sentimental, that I think it a very great pleasure to listen to him when he is put upon the subject of his travels. He has been at Woburn, and is now at Bowood. I am surprised he has not written to you. London is very quiet, which suits us very much. The Berrys give parties; nobody else does; so they pick up all the curiosities they can lay their hands on. They are going to show off to-morrow evening Generals Sebastiana and Flahaut; they are come here for safety while the trials are going on at Paris. Sebastiana, by way of being very correct and proper, went to consult the French ambassador upon the propriety of going to the house of the Opposition; he asked whether he might do it without giving offence to the English Government. The ambassador said he might certainly, for though the French Opposition were all traitors, in this country the Opposition was made up of loyal and respectable men. He then asked whether there would be any impropriety in going to the Miss Berrys. I suppose he was told not as he has been there three or four times since. How do you like the peace we have given the French? I am afraid, as it was you who wrote the boxing epistle, that you will not like it. You think those tigers and monkeys should be still left at large to worry their fellow creatures. But you who love liberty, why don't you rejoice that its greatest enemies are punished and tied up? Don't be so inconsistent as to lament over the fall of a tyrant and his most willing and obedient slaves. I love freedom too well not to rejoice at the present prospect of things. That poor wretch, Ferdinand, is serving the cause in Spain; and Louis is much more ready to give a free constitution to France than France is to take it.

"And so farewell till the next time. With kindest remembrances to Bessy, earnest prayers for the speedy appearance of your

poem, a warm wish for something about Waterloo.

"I remain, ever,

"Yours sincerely,

"M. G.

"I did not receive your letter till Saturday, and intended to send you this to-day, but I find my frank is for to-morrow."

From Leigh Hunt, Esq.

"Vale of Health, Hampstead, Feb. 1816.

"My dear Moore,

"I believe I have owed you a letter for some time;—I have tried to believe otherwise,—I was going to say I *flattered* myself you did not expect one, but this would have been a very erroneous phrase; for the fact is, I have flattered myself that you did, and yet I have sent none. I preferred a bad conscience before a twinge to my self-love. Sticking fast, therefore, to the latter quality, I have hastened to make an author's amends by sending you my poem *the moment it is out*. You will receive in company with it a second edition of the *Feast*, which you ought to have had sooner; but why do I stand making appeals to the forgiving part of you? At all events you will see what I think of the said part, and will allow that I have not been making my court to an Edinburgh Reviewer. By the way, my recognition of you in that quality was just the reverse of what you seem to have imagined, for I did not detect you as the critic of Lord Thurlow, and did as the 'orthodox reviewer of the Fathers.' Do you think I have read *Abelard and Eloisa* for nothing? And yet I did not see why you should have escaped me in the other criticism. The touch about 'that eternal old gentleman Tithonus' was taking exquisite advantage of a common phrase, and haunted me like a tune long before I knew whose it was. I have never mentioned Tithonus since under any other cognomen.

"And now you must not think me coxcombical, if I say a word respecting an incident in my poem. It is about the book the lovers were reading when their passion overpowered them. You know *you* have written books which appear to me somewhat dangerous on this score, though it is a theory of mine that works of that description, upon the whole, do

not do injury, otherwise (see my Pangloss Philosophy) Providence would not have suffered them. But I carry this theory, or whim, still farther,—or at least undertake to analyse it still farther; and it appears to me that those only are wrong in writing them who have a sense upon them of the injury they may be doing in some respects. In *that* case, the consciousness should outweigh the eventual excusability. Thus I should think you culpable now, if you have the suspicion that it would be wrong; but for the rest, I can only compare works of this nature to fuel which Providence seems to think it necessary occasionally to administer to such as are of dull natures, and *counter*-works to an equally judicious application of water when the fire threatens to be too great. Pray admire, at all events, the depth of my speculations. I was going to say something to this effect in my Preface, but thought that the public would not understand me. Indeed I profess to have no moral, as it is, in my poem, except perhaps *charity*; and a hint about the danger of *progressiveness* in love-matters; and some persons, I find, think me rather lax than otherwise.

"If you see the Examiner here, as I hope you do, it may not be disagreeable to you to know that my chief coadjutor in the Round Table, and the writer of the theatrical criticism, is a brother reviewer of yours, and author of the articles on Novels and Romances, Sismondi's *Helicon Literature*, and I believe a forthcoming one, on Schlegel's *Dramatic Essays*. Pray encourage me, at your leisure, to write you another letter, and believe me, my dear Moore,

"Ever sincerely yours,

"LEIGH HUNT.

"You must know I demand, as a poet, a right to interest myself in all ladies and their proceedings, and therefore give you plain notice of my regard for Mrs. T. M. on the score of her maternal affections. Mrs. H. wishes to know her, if it is only on that account."

From Samuel Rogers, Esq.

"April, 1816.

"Many, many thanks, my dear Moore, for your very kind letter. I can assure you in everything I shall rejoice to meet you two-

thirds of the way ; and happy indeed shall I be to realise with your assistance all the delightful castles we have been building and furnishing so long. In six weeks I shall hope to see you. Though I have not pelted you with my correspondence, I have not thought of you the less ; and if you had received every letter I have begun to you, you might have perished *under the papers*. But pray, pray dine with me to-day, and bring *Psyche* and her babes,—the last shall be the ornaments of the desert. You will meet the *Dunmores*, *Spencer*, and our friends from *Davies Street*, whose eyes twinkle whenever they talk of you. There are a thousand things I should like to say to you, a thousand very near my heart I should like to ask you about, but I dare not trust myself on paper, for I should never end.

“Lord B.’s farewell, have you seen ? It is very beautiful. He goes to Italy in a few days. I see him now as he looked when I was leaving him one day, and as he cried out after me, with a gay face and a melancholy accent, ‘*Moore is coming, and you and he will be together, and I shall not be with you.*’ It went to my heart, for he loves you dearly ; but I hope his feelings are as transient as they are acute. More of these things and of many others hereafter. My sister was with me when I received your letter yesterday morning, and desires to be remembered very affectionately to you. The oftener you and yours knock at her door at *Highbury*, the warmer, if possible, will be the welcome. If you had seen the tears she shed, poor thing, the day she left Italy, thinking I should never return with her, and knowing my brother never would, you would have liked her better than ever. Little *Barbara* is very anxious to see your little ones. She is a very engaging child, and grows more and more so every day. The *Dunmores* are the same as ever. *Spencer* I have not seen for many months.

“Ever yours,
“S. R.”

From Leigh Hunt, Esq.

“Hampstead, May 21, 1816.

“My dear Moore,

“I left my card in *Duke Street*, after receiving your first kind note. I intended to catch you there, if possible, some morning early ; but a world of unexpected and un-

pleasant business kept intercepting me day by day. I will, however, most assuredly be with you on Thursday morning, not indeed to breakfast,—which my health, though a great deal better upon the whole, will not allow,—but between 12 and 1 o’clock, when I shall perhaps catch you at yours ; and will take a biscuit for my luncheon, whether I do or not. You see I give up all hope of seeing you here ; not because I have not a great desire for it, as well as one or two other friends of mine who would give a great deal to meet you ; but because I know how your time must be snatched out of your hands by all sorts of admirers, who have the advantage of me in point of situation ; and I beg you will look upon this as one of the best and most generous proofs of my friendship I could give you. I shall therefore, as *Montague Matthew** said in the House, when amidst calls for order, he contrived to mention all the horrors in Ireland, under pretence of waiving the detail,—say nothing about the absolute beauties of this place, neither shall I touch upon the hourly stages to and from London, nor make any suggestion of the pleasant association a certain visit would have left hereafter with me and my valley, nor stop to enter into any description of a study I have, commonly called a parlour, containing just room enough to hold a couple of us, together with a pianoforte, some pictures, a set of books, including the productions, poetical and musical, of one *Thomas Moore*. All this you will look upon as not having been said, in order to leave the generosity above-mentioned complete. Remember, therefore, between 12 and 1. Your shake of the hand is too good to lose at any time, especially after the experience of all sorts of meannesses and treacheries that I have witnessed and partly experienced lately. The cordiality of your last note told me more even than it usually does, and I said, ‘he has seen the *Quarterly Review*.’ One does not like to be the object of unpleasant criticism, whatever it is, especially if it tends for a while to hurt one’s fortunes ; but in *other* respects, I can

* *Montague Matthew*, formerly M. P. for Tipperary ; an eccentric character, but not without some native humour. Upon one occasion he was confounded (by some one in the House of Commons) with Mr. *Matthew Montague* (afterwards Lord Rokeby) ; on which Mr. *Matthew* very indignantly retorted, that there was as much difference between *Matthew Montague* and *Montague Matthew*, as between a horse chestnut and a chestnut horse.

venture to tell *you* that the article in question is too bad in every way to annoy me. I was prepared, of course, for a reasonable carbanado from the Government quarters, and even for a good deal of stout objection perhaps from more friendly ones, as far as difference of theory was concerned; but this assault is mere foaming at the mouth. I cannot bring myself to believe that the author is either Southey or Gifford, with all their party passion; and though the latter must have sanctioned the article, I think the passage upon the two extracts describing * * * * * should exonerate them. But I am chattering away here, as if I were already in Duke Street.

"Yours, my dear Moore, most heartily,
"LEIGH HUNT."

To James Corry, Esq.

Mayfield, July 1, 1816.

"My dear Corry,

"It is not right that you and I, whatever may be our respective lazinesses, should continue so long without hearing from each other. I thought to provoke you into some signs of animation, by sending you, about a month or two since, a newspaper with some account of my oratorical proceedings at Derby. But you were silent, and though I know of old that your epistolary fountain can run as readily as it runs pleasantly, yet, somehow, for *me* it has dried up of late, and you seem resolved to join the ranks of those unreasonable friends of mine, who will not write to me for that worst of all possible reasons, because *I* do not write to *them*. I was in hopes, as our friend Sam says, that you were above such 'vulgar prejudices.' Rogers and I, with *quantities* to say to each other, exchange letters about once a quarter. The Donegals (the most generous of you all) give me by regular agreement three letters for every one of mine; but Joe Atkinson is the most *favoured* of my correspondents, for he receives two letters from me every week—for my mother, and answers them punctually.

"I heard from him, of your celebration of Richard Power's recovery, and I only wish, next to being there, that I had had your own account of it. When does he return?

"Do you know, between ourselves, I think

* MS. obliterated.

it is not at all unlikely that I shall, after the publication of my poem, take to living for two or three years in or near Dublin? What do you say to this? Or will you continue saying nothing to me? I have thoughts of undertaking a very voluminous work about Ireland, (if properly encouraged by *patres nostri*—the Longmans,) and this will require my residence, for at least the time I have mentioned, in Dublin. I think I shall be free, quite free, for the *Kilkenny* work, by the time Richard Power returns; but really till I get this three-thousand pounder fired off, it is in vain to think of doing anything else *well*, and well should that be done which is done for you and him.

"Sometimes Bessy and I have thought it possible we should receive a line from you to say that you were coming to England this summer, and would give us a sight of you and Mrs. Corry at the cottage,—now or never, 'tis our last summer here. I go to town in January; to *press* in February; and to the dogs (I mean the Critics) about the beginning of May.

"Best love to Mrs. Corry. I'm afraid she does not like me so well since my marriage—Women never do. But if I wrong her, let her say so stoutly; and at all events, remembrances as warm as ever to her and you, from

"Yours most faithfully,

"THOMAS MOORE.

"Bessy sends her kindest regards to you both."

From Samuel Rogers, Esq.

"London, Aug. 9, 1816.

"My dear Moore,

"Many thanks for the encouraging intimation that you will navigate a lake or two with me. To make my chance a certainty, I have given you time for preparation,—time which I am very sure you have transmuted into pure gold. I have taken my place, and shall start at five o'clock on Tuesday morning, and sleep away my weariness at Leicester. On Wednesday I shall proceed, and arrive to a late dish of tea at Mayfield. If you wish for a walk, and the sun shines, pray wander that way towards seven o'clock. I have just received a letter from Byron, dated

Diodati, near Geneva. He has been a few times at Coppet; all there are well, except Rocca.* The Duchess † seems grown taller, but, as yet, no rounder — since her marriage. Schlegel is in high force, and Madame ‡ as brilliant as ever. I have circumnavigated the lake, and shall go to Chamouni, but really we have had such stupid mists, fogs, rains, and perpetual density, that one would think Castlereagh had the foreign affairs of the kingdom of Heaven, also, upon his hands. I have read 'Glenarvon,'

"'From furious Sappho,' &c.

and have also seen Constant's novel. §

"There is a third canto of 'Childe Harold' (a longer than either of the former) finished, and some smaller things, among them a story on the 'Chateau de Chillon.' I only wait a good opportunity to transmit them to the grand Murray.

"Where is Moore? Why ain't he out? My love to him."

"In short, he writes cheerfully. Farewell, and believe me, though in haste, yours, as ever,

"S. ROGERS."

From Lord Moira.

Calcutta, Aug. 27, 1816.

"My dear Sir,

"Any circumstance must be grateful to me which occasions my receiving a letter from one whom I regard with so lively an interest as I cherish towards you. The name and character of Lieut. Cooper could not, therefore, have been introduced to me under better auspices. The becoming acquainted with them would have been more satisfactory could I have given you an encouraging answer; so far from it, I am forced to say to you at once, that I do not see the means of serving him. This must seem so extraordinary, under the notions entertained in Europe of a Governor-General's patronage, that I should be persuaded it never could be explained to you were you not likely to meet Lady Loudoun; to her I refer you for minute information on what can be only stated generally by me. There is scarcely a situation of even moderate advantage to which the

Governor-General can appoint any one but a servant of the Company. The very, very few which are at his disposal, require, I believe without exception, a ready command of the Hindostanee language; and scarcely any of them are of a function or estimated rate that would be reconcilable to the feelings of one who had appeared as an officer. In the military line, there are just three officers in all India to which an officer in the King's service can be appointed. You may guess what priority of claim there must be upon them; and they are only Brigade-Majorships, most inadequately paid. The general officers in command at the other Presidencies always come upon me with solicitations (relative to those posts) which it would be difficult to resist, because the Brigade-Major has to transact business confidentially with them.

"This outline will suffice to show you that I could not encourage Lieut. Cooper's coming out hither, without the sense of leading him into inevitable disappointment. Should my position alter, of which I can have no expectation, I would apprise you.

"We are in great prosperity here. To our surprise, large remittances of money have been made to us from England, when our treasury was overflowing with cash. Every branch of the revenue has been increasing, and will continue to augment; and every native power is crouching to us.

"I smiled at what you have communicated about Lord Thurlow, not as referring to you, but to myself. Observe, however, that I had, at the time of my conceiving he *might have* a vigorous wing, read none of his poetry, but a compliment to myself, which I could not but deem exquisite.

"Adieu, my dear Sir. Offer my best remembrances to Mrs. Moore, and believe me, with sincere esteem and regard,

"Your faithful Servant,

"MOIRA.

"Thomas Moore, Esq."

From Samuel Rogers, Esq.

"August 30, 1816.

"My dear Moore,

"*Many, many thanks* to you and yours, not forgetting the two personages at the second table. I can assure you I left you all with a heavy heart, as I went all along (faithless de-

* Second husband of Madame de Staël.

† Of Broglie.

‡ De Staël.

§ Adolphe.

serter!) and many and many a time in my rambles with Wordsworth have I lamented your absence, when the mists and sunbeams gave us revelations of Heaven. This is indeed a most enchanting country, and I shall leave it with a sigh, but leave it I must. I came here yesterday; and shall depart in two or three days. To the North? No, I think, but what will become of me I cannot say; till my foot is on the first step of my chaise.

"Believe me to be yours ever,

"SAMUEL ROGERS.

"I have spent some very delightful hours with Sonthey, and could you see the neatness of his house, the beauty of his girls, the cheerfulness of his fireside, and the order and completeness of his library, you would see (though some of the said ingredients are a little more matured by time—I allude to the second and the last) a reflection of your own, Signor Tomaso."

From Mary Godfrey.

"December 24, 1816.

"What are you about? and why are you not come? and how are you all? and where is the poem? You said in your last letter you would soon write again, to tell us when you were to come, and you have never written since. So pray do give us a line, or tell Bessy to do so, to let us know all about you. I am afraid she has suffered from this dreadful season, as you said your house was neither water-proof nor wind-proof. As to ourselves, we go on soberly. My sisters and Barbara have been visiting at Lady Kingston's and Lord Clifden's, and I established myself at Lady Shaftesbury's in their absence. I am sorry to say Bab returned from her last visit extremely ill, and continued so for some days with her old faintings. She has now got quite well again, but I am afraid we must expect returns of the complaint, it seems to have taken such complete possession of her constitution. All the physicians who have attended her declare there is no sort of danger in it, which is a great consolation. We have not seen Rogers for a great while; he called when we were out of town, and when we returned he was gone to Lord Spencer's. He has been very amiable to us since he came back from you, and has called here very often; he never hinted at the unfor-

tunate journal. How do you like Lord Byron's last gloomy productions? He now comes out openly and fairly—the hero of his own tale. Some people say those pretty lines, from the banks of the Rhine, are addressed to his sister. Others will not allow that they can be addressed to a sister. He has written to Lady Byron to ask to be reconciled; and Madame de Staël, not knowing Lady Byron, has written to Lady Romilly to beg she would use her good offices to second his wishes. To this letter, Lady Byron returned an answer herself, saying, that Lord Byron well knew that they could never live together again. There is nothing to be seen or heard of but wretchedness and poverty, which there is a general wish and effort to relieve. Everybody is doing their best to assist their fellow-creatures in distress; and it is a satisfaction to see how much good feeling and humanity there is to be found in time of need in this wicked world. The town is empty, and our only gaiety is the play, where we have been very often. It would grieve you to see Miss O'Neil in 'Volumnia,' and Kemble her 'dear boy.' They said she did Constance well; but, I own, I thought it a part quite out of her line. I liked her in Lady Townley; but I had never seen it acted before, and I thought she looked so pretty, and so like a woman of fashion, that I had much pleasure in the performance, though the critics said her gaiety was not gay enough. But critics are the very pests of society, and will not let one be pleased with anything. We heard yesterday—but I don't answer for the truth of it—that both playhouses were in so ruinous a state, that they would be obliged to act but three times a week. I can't think it is the case with regard to Covent Garden; but every one says the other is in a wretched way. The King of France is in very bad health, and then Chaos is to come again, for the discontent and divisions of that country are beyond all conception, according to every one's account.

"A thousand kind remembrances and good wishes to you and yours, from me and mine.

"God bless you all, and good-bye.

"M. G."

From Samuel Rogers, Esq.

"London, January 21, 1817.

"My dear Moore,

"You have done bravely, and I am rejoiced

to think it has ended as it has done, to their credit and your comfort. By some chance, I have not been in Davies Street for a long time till yesterday, when she told me generally of your illness and your anxiety. The *removal*, she said, was owing to us *reformers*; but that it had ended in half-pay. Of her own exertions or yours, she said nothing, nor shall I.

"But, my dear Moore, if I may judge from your silence, you are as yet undecided as to your dwelling. I have heard of your visitants, and now of vexations mental and corporal, no doubt productive of much mischief to the finer organs, to their operation in the goose-walking among the currant-bushes. My sister wrote me word of your kind attentions at Derby. She said you were the king of the place, and that your notice made her *proud*. Bowles was in town in December, but I was at Petworth, and missed him. I came yesterday from Holland House, where I have been passing a few days with Luttrell, and where you were much wanted. I have been idling away my time in many castles of indolence, and to-day am going to my brother and sister for a week, before I establish myself finally to prepare for you, you false one! Though you make no mention of your wife and children dear, I shall not let them escape. Pray give my love to the first, and a kiss a-piece to the two last. To the first I dare not send one, even by proxy.

"Ever yours,
"SAMUEL ROGERS."

"What a quiet spring is before us: the Lansdownes, Cowpers, Jerseys, Douglas's, &c. &c., on the *right* side of the Alps. The Hollands come to town to-day for the winter."

From Lord Strangford.

"Clifton, June 20, 1817.

"My dear Moore,

"I beseech you to make my excuse to the Irish *Wittenagemot*, which is to assemble to-morrow at the 'Thatched House.' My departure for Sweden takes place so much sooner than I expected, that I have found myself obliged to visit my *mamma* and sisters *this* week instead of the next. Pray, my dear Moore, do the *apologetic* for me in your prettiest style.

"I plucked up courage, two days ago, and

called on Rogers, who was quite delightful. We *got on* famously together, and I have lost so much of my *terror* that I shall assault him with frequent visitations on my return to town.

"My mother is a bit of a saint; she is reading your book at the other end of the room. The following dialogue has just passed between us:—

"*Sinner*. 'I am writing to Moore.'

"*Saint*. 'I am reading Moore.'

"*Sinner*. 'What shall I say to Moore?'

"*Saint*. 'That I am shocked at my own wickedness in admiring anything in *this world* so much as I do his Poem!'

"God bless you.

"Ever most affectionately yours,

"STRANGFORD."

From Miss Godfrey.

"Sunday, Sept. 21, 1817.

"I will not attempt to say how much we all feel for you and poor Bessy. I merely write to implore you to stay on in Davies Street as long as ever it may be the least convenience to you to do so. And believe that it is a great gratification to us to hear that you find yourselves tolerably comfortable there, and that the servants attend to you as they ought to do. Mary wrote to you on Friday last, which letter you ought to have got yesterday; and you will see by that letter, that it immediately occurred to us that Davies Street was the only place for you to go to in your distress. We sincerely hope to have a better account of you both soon, though we can hardly expect it; but submission to the will of Heaven is our first duty.

"I have been very unwell with my old faintings; and though they have ceased, they have left me languid and uncomfortable, as they always do for some little time after they are over; but in a day or two I hope to be as well as usual.

"We are very sorry to hear the account you give of your own health, and earnestly beg of you to take great care of yourself, for a hurt in the leg is always a troublesome thing to get rid of, and requires great caution as to eating as well as drinking.

"This is all I can write, for my head is still far from well.

"Give our loves to poor Bessy.

"Bab forgot to add that whenever you can

come down here we shall be delighted to see you. She repeats again that she hopes you will consider yourselves at home in Davies Street, and make yourselves as comfortable as you can; but I am afraid you must want many things that cannot be got at in our absence—forks and spoons, &c. &c., which are always sent to Mr. Hoare's; but it is not when one is suffering real griefs that one thinks of such wants as these. Indeed, we feel for you both beyond what it is possible to say,—and particularly for poor Bessy, who must long miss that dear little child, and often feel a bitter pang when she sees Anastasia playing about without her little companion. We quite agree with you in what you say of all Bessy's amiable feelings, and cannot but lament that they have been destined to so severe a trial. Religion is the best and, I believe, the only consolation in severe affliction; and I am very sure she is a person who will feel that. Pray let us hear often how you are going on, and take very good care of yourself.

“Ever sincerely yours,

“M. G.

“Will you give the enclosed to Farrance?”

To James Corry, Esq.

“Sloperton Cottage, Devizes, Wilts, Dec. 8, 1817.

“My dear Corry,

“I owe you a letter, but I owe you much more for the kindness of that which you wrote, when you little knew to what extent we wanted such sympathy. Our loss* has indeed been severe, and we feel it much more than those who mingle again with the world, and forget themselves in the distractions of society; for, in our quiet life, every little thing reminds us of the sad vacancy that has been left in it. However, ‘time and the hour’ cures all. We have got a very snug little thatched cottage here, which Lord Lansdowne most friendly volunteered to find out for us. I pay for it furnished but forty pounds a year, and yet I think it promises to be by far the most comfortable dwelling we have had. Lord Lansdowne's library is within a moderate walk of me, and as most of my London friends come down to visit him in the course of the year, I shall have just those *glimpses* of society which throw a light over one's solitude, and enliven it.

* The death of his daughter Barbara.

“I have not time now to tell you any particulars of myself, but I shall enclose you one or two of my twin weekly letters to my mother, in the course of this month, and shall accompany them with a word or two each time, to let you know some things you may like to hear.

“Yours ever, with best regards to Mrs. Corry.

“THOMAS MOORE.”

To Samuel Rogers, Esq.

“Sloperton Cottage, Devizes, Wilts, Dec. 9, 1817.

“My dear Rogers,

“I wrote you a little note the other day to go in a packet to Power, but it was left out by mistake, and was not worth sending alone. We find our cottage as yet very comfortable; even during these last and stormy days it has neither smoked nor let in water—*et c'est beaucoup pour Sloperton*. The Lansdownes have not yet made their appearance, so that I suppose neither of them has returned to Bowood. Bowles was very early in his welcome of us, and has since brought Mrs. Bowles; but I was out, and Bessy did not venture to encounter them alone. How are *you* going on? I long to hear that you have achieved those remaining lines, and that Spring is likely to number you among her family as ‘*madre de fiori*,’ &c. Alas! the ‘*gioventù dell' anno*’ is not *our* youth, and I begin to think that Spring is but a tantalising recurrence. I am sorry to say these thoughts come rather too thick upon me of late, and, notwithstanding the society of the Fudges, whom I endeavour to *make* as agreeable as I can, still I droop sometimes. I suppose it is natural that Death's first visit among those dear to us should leave this desolate feel behind it; and a little time, perhaps, will make all right again. I have just finished a long letter from Mr. Fudge to Lord Castlereagh, and am beginning young Bob Fudge's account of a gourmand day in Paris—excellent subjects, if I can but muster up gaiety of imagination enough to do them justice. You see the sixth edition of ‘*Laila*’ is out, and (the Longmans tell me) a great many of it sold; so there I leave her—my paternal anxieties are over, and she will now, I think, be able to shift for herself.

“If you hear any comical anecdotes connected with French politics, or our own min-

isters, pray let me have them, or, if anything occurs to you in Miss Fudge's way, it will be but gallantry to communicate it for her, and, at all events, let me hear from you. Bessy has, for the first time, produced your beautiful book to stand in her bookcase; and, indeed, it is the first time, poor girl, she has had a sitting-room fit for it. She sends her best remembrances to your sister and yourself, with those of, my dear Rogers, yours very truly,

"THOMAS MOORE."

From John Murray, Esq.

Albermarle Street, Dec. 31st, 1817.

"My dear Sir,

"Although I had some doubts about writing to you respecting the critique, *before* I received your letter touching it, I certainly had no delicacy afterwards, and have been prevented from writing to you by eternal interruptions alone. I will fabricate a proper letter for the author of the 'Critique;' but I confess to you I was indignant—it is so completely unworthy of you—totally devoid of congeniality of thought, or power of composition, and I am glad that your inherent delicacy has not quitted you upon so trying an occasion.

"Respecting pounds, you may at once draw for sixty at two months, and it shall be placed either to Mr. Sheridan, or any other account, as we may hereafter find mutually convenient.

"The Fourth Canto is now on its way. I had a very long epistle yesterday from Mr. Hobhouse, who was then going to set out with it in three weeks, and report speaks goldenly of its merits.

"I am about to commence a Journal (monthly) to comprise all subjects of literature and its varieties, and to exclude totally, as will be stated in the advertisement—Politics. I am very anxious that you should do me the favour to take it into your thoughts; you can, I am sure, from floating materials write hundreds of little essays, or letters or scraps—on society, manners, &c., which will not occupy, but rather relieve your mind from severer studies, which would be infinitely valuable to me. I will send you the first Number, which will be published next month, and I shall consider your com-

munications as a very peculiar act of kindness. I shall keep an account with you, and at the end of every three months its amount will not, I trust, prove unworthy of your acceptance. I entreat *you be forming memoranda for such a class of communications.*

"I am happy to find that I anticipated your desire to have Northanger Abbey, &c., by enclosing a copy for Mrs. Moore's acceptance, yesterday, with a copy which I got that day by mail, of the 'Edinburgh Review,' which is not yet published in London: but here I find I have been anticipated, as I rather expected.

"You say the 'Quarterly Review' is dull; did you see Joe Davis' article on Africa? You think nothing lively unless some poor devil be cut up, and then, *O shame!* if it be one of your friends; but, take out political articles, you will ever find a store of valuable information to be very interesting. It is a positive fact that I print as many as they do of the 'Edinburgh Review,' which really depends upon *Jeffrey*, in whose department we have no match.

"I sincerely wish you and your family many happy returns of the year. And remain, dear Sir,

"Your faithful servant,
"JOHN MURRAY."

To James Corry, Esq.

Jan. 14, 1818.

"My dear Corry,

"If I did not feel a *craving* come over me now and then for a little intelligence from Lurgan Street I do not think you would ever receive a letter from me; so that it is pure and downright selfishness makes me write. Besides, extracting one of your long, delightful letters, by means of such hurried little scraps of notes as mine, is like the trick they play in foreign parts, of throwing pebbles at monkeys, in order to be pelted back with pine-apples in return; and therefore, with all my aversion to the *private* use of the pen (being doomed, for my sins, to the cursed *public* employ of it) I cannot resist, now and then, the temptations which such double compound interest on my notes offers. I very much agree with you about your character for the next *Kilkenney*, except as to *Falstaff*, of which I think you could give the *orations* most success-

fully. Power is a shabby fellow not to write to me; particularly as he has a house of mine on his hands, in *an unfinished condition*, which I expected long before now to have restored to me. Tell him this.

"Lord Dandy is a good fellow; and I often remember with gratitude that he once condescended to call *me* a dandy. 'Laudari a Lord Dandies (laudandis) viris,' is something in this world.

"Give my best love and remembrance to Mrs. Corry, and believe me.

"Ever faithfully yours,

"THOMAS MOORE.

"In looking over this note, it strikes me that I have somewhere used the simile of the monkeys before: if to *you*, remember I am in your debt a new simile in place of it, which I shall take the first bright moment of discharging.

"I am *not* writing Fudges in London. But, believe me, *personal* satire is the only one that will ever make fools and rascals *feel*. Any thing else is fudge indeed.

"What is the story of Fanny Hesham?"

To Samuel Rogers, Esq

"Sloperton Cottage, Feb. 6, 1818.

"My dear Rogers,

"Though I think it not unlikely that I shall, in the course of next week, be shaking hands with you in St. James's Place (as those musical but inharmonious brothers, the Powers, who might well be called *brothers-in-law*, have given signal for combat on the 13th, and I fear I am to receive a subpoena on the occasion), yet I cannot help writing you a short letter, just to ask how you do in this very cold weather. March was the month I looked to for being ready with the Fudges, and at the same time devoting three or four weeks to a rummage in London on the subject of Sheridan, who must be my *next* victim; but this cursed *law* trip will disconcert my plans a good deal; still, however, I shall contrive to be ready for the press in March, as I have now about 1400 lines written, and there will not be more in all than 17 or 1800. I have done it, I think, pretty well; but, as usual, not half so well as I had *pre-imagined* it. The Lansdownes have been particularly amiable to us. The day that Bessy dined there

was indeed a sad operation to her, for there were a good many people, not one of whom she knew; and among whom she sat, poor girl, in a state of dignified desolation; but before they went to town Lord and Lady L., with Pamela*, walked over one morning and lunched with us, and listened to music; and then we all rambled together to the church at the other side of the valley, and Lady Lansdowne was all heartiness and good-nature; and Bessy, whose element is home, was seen, I flatter myself, to much advantage; so that we shall get on with them, I have no doubt, most comfortably; and, as they will only come like comets now and then into our system, we shall enjoy a little of their light and warmth without being either dazzled or scorched by them. I have, indeed, got to like Lady L. exceedingly; she is frank and sensible, unaffected, and certainly very pretty; and altogether she has so won me over that I am going to dedicate a set of national airs to her,—there's my anti-aristocracy for you! *He* is delightful; and, if I could but once forget he is a Lord, I could shake his hand as heartily as that of any good fellow I know. We passed three or four days at Bowles's since I last wrote to you. What an odd fellow it is! and how narrowly, by being a *genius*, he has escaped being set down for a *fool*! Even as it is, there seem to be some doubts among his brother magistrates; but he is an excellent creature notwithstanding; and if it is not of Helicon that his spirit has drunk, it is at least of very sweet waters, and to my taste very delightful. Bessy has had a long letter from Crabbe, with 'Fair Lady!' in every page: he, too, is an odd fellow. Then there's Crowe, whom I like much. He sent me a message that he wished to meet me, and we dined together at an ex-attorney's in Devizes; much to my gratification, for he certainly is one of the few, and there is something very racy even in his lees.

"Tell the Donegals they are very lazy not to write to me; and, with best remembrances to your brother and sister, believe me,

"My dear Rogers, faithfully yours,

"THOMAS MOORE."

* Daughter of Lord Edward Fitzgerald; married Sir Guy Campbell.

From Leigh Hunt, Esq.

"13 Lisson Grove North, near Paddington,
"March 24, 1818.

("Eheu, fugaces, Posthume! Posthume!—Alas! now
when I am closing my letter, it is April 6.)

"My dear Moore,

"In sending you a copy of my new publication I must thank you very sincerely for being kind enough to remember me the other day when you wrote to my excellent friend, Mr. Shelley.* I had not forgotten you, believe me,—I neither could, nor ought; but we happened not to hear from each other for some time before your large poem came out, and then a most villanous habit of delay, which want of occupation in early youth, and sickness afterwards, conspired to fix into the very bones of me, made me so creep on from week to week without paying it the proper attention in the 'Examiner,' which I nevertheless used to swear to myself, week after week, to do, that at last I fairly became ashamed of noticing the book at all, much more of writing to yourself. One or two similar circumstances, which other real friends have tolerated in the kindest manner, but which have induced another of a more doubtful complexion, in spite of greater infirmities of his own of the same sort, to read me a very hot lecture upon, have made me think very seriously of this habit of mine. It is certainly very much against my theories of friendship, and, I think I may say, not at all compatible with the rest of my practice of it, which has ever been accounted somewhat romantic and over-zealous. I have been assaulted enough in my time for imaginary offences, and need not add real ones to them. You have seen or heard, perhaps, of this anonymous raf who attacked me in a Scotch magazine. My brother, in his over-zealousness for me, unfortunately inserted a paragraph about me in the paper, and then I was obliged to notice him in the same way. We have not succeeded in dragging or provoking him forth; and he has since, after a certain growling but always mean fashion, recanted, pretending he did not mean to attack me privately. He is supposed by most people to be a former acquaintance of mine, who has every reason in the world *not* to attack me, and whom they consider as a sort of moral

* Percy Bysshe Shelley.

phenomenon. But enough of this. I hope that you are setting about something fresh, and that now you have got all the experiences of your poetry, you will give us some story or other poem by itself. 'Lalla Rookh,' to be sincere with you, appeared to me to be too florid in its general style; but there are exquisite passages, and you have so truly a poetical character of your own—you are so truly, by birth, a poetical animal, out of the pale of book-associations, and a free inhabitant of the most Elysian parts of nature—that the more you resolved to speak and to feel out of the sincerity of your own impulses, without thinking it necessary to search for ideas, the more to your advantage, I am persuaded, it would be. You are a born poet, and have only to claim your inheritance—not to be heaping up a multitude of anxious proofs, which, though mistaken by some for ostentation, are in reality evidences of a *diffidence* of pretension, which you ought not to feel. On the other hand, I would not see you restrained so much as I formerly would have done in certain amatory respects; nor, indeed, are you so, perhaps, notwithstanding one of the morals in your book, in which, I think, you overshot the mark in making repentance a better thing than a wish to make amends. Repentance is undoubtedly a very good and delicate thing in some minds, and should reasonably make the amends when they are not to be made otherwise; but, generally speaking, it is mere regret for the loss of something on one's own part, not a social and just feeling; it is as much as to say—I'm very sorry I missed the plum-cake I might have had. The world, I think, does not want repentance, especially for the more kindly errors; it wants kindness itself, *unselfishness*, justice, imagination, good taste, love and friendship—all that leads it to think of one another,—in short, gain for all, as opposed to gain for the individual. Now to produce this, I would see even some abuses hazarded on the gentler side of things, especially as some of the abuses themselves arise out of a gross and selfish misconception of guilt and innocence, and of forms for essentials; so that the most kindly and virtuous natures are repeatedly sacrificed, either to the most painful and unnatural self-denial, or to the gratuitous wretchedness of imaginary guilt—or, worse than all, are turned

cold-blooded and worldly, out of a false notion of their own natural self-defence. I would have no insincerity, no such thing as seduction, no gross selfishness of any sort ; I would only have the world think as *well* as they can of all the gentler impulses, and as *badly* as they can of all the violent, the proud, and the exclusive ones : but as the majority go on at present (though somewhat shaken by philosophy) they proceed upon the blessed absurdity of *making* as much guilt as they can out of the former, and surrounding the latter with all sorts of 'pride, pomp, and circumstance.' But you will take me for one of your old friends the Fathers if I go on at this rate ; or rather, for one of their young Pagan relations. If you want to act up to that brilliant Christian principle, and 'heap coals of fire on my head,' you will write to me instantly, and exhibit all the epistolary virtue which I possess not ; if otherwise you will take your time, both to write my letter and read my book, or at least to pronounce any good opinion of the latter. And yet I hope it will not be long first either, that I hear from you ; for, indeed, if you will allow me to use a tone which some might construe into an assumption, even between friends, I have a very great regard for you, and think of you often and often. You shall see that I do, now that I have mustered up face enough to write your name again. Mrs. H. begs her best remembrances. Pray make mine also to fair Arganda the Unknown, whose old inclination to have a good opinion of me I am impudent enough to think she would not diminish if she knew me.

"Most sincerely and heartily yours,

"LEIGH HUNT."

To Samuel Rogers, Esq.

"April 6, 1818.

"My dear Rogers,

"I just dispatch a line to say that we shall meet, I hope, on Sunday or Monday next. I *may* be in town on Friday or Saturday, but shall be too busy with Proctors and *other* Fudges to call upon you. Proctors ! only think ; all my dreams of comfort and independence at once menaced, if not destroyed. I take for granted you have seen Lady Donegal, and heard my doleful story. I was about

answering a letter of hers, when I was served with the awful monition. I have heard no particulars ; but the proceeds of a ship and cargo *must* be considerable, more, indeed, than I can ever *attempt* to pay. We are neither of us, however, thank Heaven ! in the least cast down by it. As it is by no misdeed or extravagance of our own, conscience is, at least, left untouched, and *there* lies the spring of happiness after all. I have felt more, *at large*, from a small debt of my own than I shall feel, *in a prison*, from thousands thus incurred.

"I *ought* to have had security ; but the place was so trifling, when I appointed him, that it was almost made a complaint his taking it. To show you, however, that it has not affected my spirits much, I have been able to write one of Biddy Fudge's gayest letters since I heard of it.

"Good-bye, my dearest Rogers. I *know* you will visit me in the Rules, when I can no longer be with those Pindaric poets who are '*lege solutis*.'

"Ever yours faithfully,

"THOMAS MOORE."

To James Corry, Esq.

"May 15, 1818.

"My dear Corry,

"The week after next I hope to present myself to you in Lurgan Street ; and as I have but eight days to stay amongst you, you must make the most of me. I hope Richard Power continues in Dublin, but I heard some alarming rumours of his being expected in London soon after I left it. This will be indeed 'from love's shining circle, the *gem* dropped away ;' but I *will* hope I may be lucky enough still to find him there ; as for *you*, you must be there ; it would be contrary to all laws, human and divine, that I should not have a glimpse, and many a glimpse, of you while I stay ; and I am happy to find that my father's lodgings (where they have a bed for me) is close in your neighbourhood.

"Happy as I am to see you all, it is with regret I leave my sweet, quiet cottage at this 'rosy time of the year,' where, in addition to the sunshine we have always, thank God, *with-in*, there is some prospect (if these ice-bergs would permit), of a warm gleam or two *with-out* ; but you must make it up to me in your

heartiest smiles; and be assured that, *there or here*, I am always, dear Corry,

"Your very faithful friend,

"THOMAS MOORE.

"Love to Mrs. C.

"Bessy bids me say she depends upon you for franking a letter of mine to her *every day*."

To Samuel Rogers, Esq.

"June 18, 1818.

"My dear Rogers,

"I am afraid you will think me a sad truant, but the truth is, I had persuaded myself, before I set off for Ireland, that I had really written to you soon after my leaving London, and that it was *you* who were in *my* debt a letter, but the startling truth of the case broke upon me one fine morning, in no less romantic a place than Manchester, as I was on my way to Ireland, and I sat down forthwith to write to you a long apology for my silence, when, *lo!* the arrival of the coach hurried me away; and from that moment to this I have been in such a giddifying labyrinth of bustle, acclamation, hurrahs, &c., that, though your name has often been upon my lips, I have never had a disposable minute to write a line to you. Never, certainly, was there anything more enthusiastic than my reception in Dublin. It was even better than Voltaire's at Paris, because there was more *heart* in it, and the call for me at the Theatre, and the bursts of applause when I appeared with my best bows at the front of the box (which I was obliged to repeat several times in the course of the night) were really all most overwhelmingly gratifying, and scarcely more delightful to me on my own account than as a proof of the strong spirit of nationality in my countrymen.

"There was a tolerably good report of the speeches at the dinner in the Irish papers; but I am not sorry that Perry has shortened the account so much, for we were none of us in very good taste, I think; and Phillips, who compiled the speeches, has left the marks of his own paint-brush upon us all; but the effect at the time was admirable, and never was there a day of more strong feeling witnessed.

"I have heard, with some surprise, of your Poem lying at Murray's. He kept the secret so well from me, that I was in hopes he would be equally secret with others. He has not,

however, I believe, told more than that he had such a thing in his possession. What have you done with it? Do pray write to me soon, and do not visit my own transgressions upon me *in kind*.

"I have had a *heary* complaint from Wilkie about the unwillingness of Charles Sheridan, or his advisers, to come to anything decisive with respect to the sanctioning his publication of the works.

"Good-bye; best regards to your sister.

"Ever yours,

"T. MOORE."

To James Corry, Esq.

"June 20, 1818.

"My dear Corry,

"You perceive how Perry has shorn us of our beams; between his stinginess of room and his zeal for *me*, he has made but an awkward, monopolising concern of his report, and I most anxiously hope some of the other London papers may have done us more justice. You may guess how glad I was to see my quiet garden again, but I have hardly yet recovered from the giddiness of my Dublin fortnight. The hip, hip, hurrahs! seem still sounding in my ears, and I feel as if a good fit of sea-sickness (which, for the first time, I was not blessed with) would have been necessary to carry off the indigestion of glory I brought away with me. I arrived here at ten o'clock on Monday night, and found Bessy walking about the garden (as she had been for several nights before) watching for me. It seemed a long month to her. Your real and hearty kindness to me, my dear Corry, has not been forgotten in *my* report of the transactions to her, nor shall it ever be forgotten as long as I have a heart to feel and a hand to record my gratitude to you. I have often been regretting since that we had no conversation about the Kilkenny Memoirs, which, as I told Richard Power in Paris, I have not been unmindful of, but, whenever I have met with anything in my reading that bore upon it, have never failed to note it down, with a view to what, ere long, *you will see* I shall execute.

"My 'Life of Sheridan' still remains in a very doubtful state, from the indecision of Charles Sheridan, with respect to any arrangement with the booksellers. Till the family are allowed some share in the publication

I feel delicate, of course, in availing myself of their papers for the advantage of the book-sellers.

"How are *you* getting on, my dear fellow? I hope that plaguing pain is gone, and that you are as flourishing and happy every way as you deserve to be. I grieve that I did not see more of Mrs. Corry while I stayed, and most particularly grieve that I had not a better opportunity of singing her some of those new things, which I *know* she would have liked. My best regards to her, and believe me ever faithfully,

"Hers and yours,

"THOMAS MOORE."

From Miss Godfrey.

"July 9, 1813.

"I have been thinking of writing to you from time immemorial, and at last I am determined to begin, and talk to you a little about you and yours and me and mine. We have been reading of your honours and glories and speeches with great interest and pleasure, knowing how gratifying it must all have been to your feelings and to Bessy's. At the same time, however, that I congratulate you upon the flattering manner you were received in by your countrymen, let me whisper a little word of congratulation also at your having got away safe from them before it came to throwing stones at you, or throwing you into the river, which they intended to do by Mr. Grattan. I would not say it out loud upon any account, for fear of a flowing tirade from that sunflower of eloquence Mr. Phillips; but I heartily rejoice that you have got off with all your popularity and whole bones into the bargain, and are safely lodged in your own cottage, where I hope you found Bessy and Anastasia as well as your heart could wish. Have you heard anything more of your Bermuda affairs? Pray write soon, and give us a long account of yourselves. The last we heard of you was through Rogers, who read us the letter you wrote to him upon your return home. As to ourselves, I have but a tragical history to give. Our expedition to Brighton, which we intended for health and economy, failed in both. I came back very ill; and no sooner had I got well, than Bab had a return of her old faintings, from which, thank God! she is now almost quite recovered; but she has had a very bad

attack, I grieve to say. We propose going next week to Tunbridge Wells to stay two or three months. Philly and Barbara are already there. I suppose you are in the very joy of your heart at the success of the Reformers, and expect great doings in this new Parliament. We have had some fine specimens of liberty during the Westminster election, which make one tremble in one's skin. We were in hopes that some great Whig, in either England or Ireland, would have brought you into the House of Commons; but I dare say your great Whigs would be pretty nearly as much afraid of you as your great Tories, for you do now and then take them by surprise with some unlucky truth that they would rather not hear.

"Rogers just called, and seeing this frank on the table, desired me to tell you he was writing to you; but I think it is only in his imagination, so don't be surprised if the letter never comes. I have not a word of news to tell you,—we have been so much shut up from the world since our return to town. We both join in everything most kind to you all, and shall be very happy to hear a good account of Bessy's health. Truly yours,

"M. G."

From Samuel Rogers, Esq.

"July 12, 1813.

"My dear Moore,

"Many thanks for both your letters,—for that which you wrote waking, which came to hand, and for that which, you say, you wrote, dreaming, which I have not yet received. Your reception did honour to Ireland. An anniversary dinner on the birthday of a living poet is what reminds us of the good old times: and we shall soon hear of a coronation in the capital. Little has occurred here since you left us, but dinners, balls, and election bets. Luttrell, to escape the din of the dissolution, fled to Holland, and is at this moment sitting between two tobacco-pipes in a treckschwytt. Crabbe has been here for a fortnight, and, being a lover of peace and quiet, took a lodging at the Hummums, when the Westminster uproar was at its height. Crowe passed an hour with me yesterday. He is gone to-day. My sister has been very ill since you went, but is better. As for me, I think of visiting Scotland, and in that case shall not, I fear, return in time for a western circuit, but my movements

are very uncertain. Murray did not return the MS. till I went again ; and since that time I have not seen him. I am not sorry, as the dissolution rendered the thing impossible for some time to come, and I have much to do to it. Spencer is at Darmstadt, and has received some order from the elector. Sheridan has called upon me twice.

"Pray give my love to Psyche and Anastasia, and believe me to be ever yours,
"S. ROGERS."

To James Corry, Esq.

"July 13, 1818.

"My dear Corry,

"I have to thank you for two most welcome letters. I remember Cicero bids one of his correspondents write letters worthy of him,—*'scribe literas te dignas :'* he need never have given such a hint to *you* ; but the worst of it is, *I* am always in too great a hurry to follow your example, and can only give you, what my friend William Spencer calls *'legs and wings of thoughts,'* I don't even throw in the *merry-thoughts*, though I would if I could. In answer to Mrs. Corry's grave charge of *'not liking her as well as I did at Kilkenny'*—how *can* she be so unjust ? Only let her give me fair play,—I call for a ring and fair play : the bottle-holders shall be a few staunch hearts I could name ; the ground either here or in Lurgan Street, the time of any duration she pleases, the longer the better ; and if I don't beat her out and out in *liking*, why, I'll consent to wear the white feather of falsehood in my heart for ever after. *Like* her ! *'like Ossian !'* says Werter,—*love* is the word, and I hereby fling down the gauntlet upon it boldly.

"You delight me by your report of Peel's speech. He is one of the Dii Majores of our political Olympus, and I only wish he did not wield the Birmingham thunder of such Salmoncasses as his present masters. You know, at that college dinner it made me melancholy to think what a clever, manly-minded fellow they had got amongst them.

"Poor Joe Atkinson is at last gone. For this long time he has been but *'jocus, et preterea nihil ;'* but his death was as gradual and easy, poor fellow, as his life had been prosperous and amiable. I shall miss him exceedingly.

"I have written to Power to come to us. I hope he will.

"Yours ever faithfully,

"THOMAS MOORE.

"I dine to-day at Poet Bowles's (whom I so shamefully omitted in my rignmarole of Bards) to meet Lord Lansdowne, Methuen, &c. &c."

To Mrs. Lefanu.

"Sloperton Cottage, Sept. 16, 1818.

"My Dear Madam,

"I have been prevented from acknowledging your very kind and useful communications by a visit of business which I was obliged to pay to London, and from which I am but just returned. I am sorry that Mrs. Canning does not permit me to give her name, because her testimony to your brother's kindness of heart is very important, and would, of course, be much enhanced by the authority of the name. We must, however, be content to leave it anonymous, as she wishes it. You may depend upon my not committing you, in any way, with the important personage to whom you allude. Indeed, strong as is my feeling with respect to some parts of his conduct to your brother, I mean to let the facts speak for themselves, without any colouring or comment from me. I have not yet had time to look over the papers you have sent me ; but I have no doubt that they are highly useful and interesting ; and I shall take the liberty, whenever I find myself in any puzzle, to apply to you for a clue to help me out. Mr. W. Linley and I have had some correspondence lately, and he promises me not only several poems of his sister, but one or two of Mr. Sheridan's which have never been printed. I find too from my neighbour Lord Lansdowne that he expects Mr. Thomas Grenville at Bowood for a few days ; so that I shall have an opportunity of uncorking (to use an old joke) all the remains of *Sherry* there are in *him*, which, you may suppose from the opinion I expressed of him, I do not expect to be of the most racy or sparkling quality. But, altogether, my materials (at least for the early part of the *Life*) are much more promising than I expected.

"When I was in town, I took an opportunity of mentioning Miss Lefanu to the Longmans, and they beg that she will allow them

to read her novel, when it is finished. I added to my mention of her name all that I was likely to feel after seeing and conversing with her ; so that I trust she will find them disposed to do her every possible justice. But I need not tell you how little depends on *favour* in literature ; even merit is not always sure of a good reception ; *saleability* is the thing with the booksellers.

"Pray tell Miss Lefanu how exceedingly obliged I am by the trouble she has taken in collecting and copying so much for me ; and with my best regards to her and Mr. Lefanu, I beg you to believe me, my dear Madam, very faithfully,

"Your obliged servant,

"THOMAS MOORE."

From Miss Godfrey.

"Saturday, Oct. 5, 1818.

"We have long been intending to write to you, but have gone on putting it off, owing to one disagreeable circumstance or another, till at last we were ashamed to begin ; but Rogers called here yesterday, and told us that he was very much afraid your odious Bermuda business would turn out much more vexatious than was at first apprehended. The sincere concern this information gave us soon put laziness to flight ; and I have got a frank to write to you, for I am sorry to say Bab has not been well for some days, and her head does not allow of her doing so. Pray write immediately, and tell us in what state the business is at present, and what you really think will be the consequence of it to you. We are most anxious to know. Rogers said he had written to you upon the subject, but that he had not received an answer. But pray don't serve us so, or we shall be very angry with you ; and, at the same time, tell us how Bessy is going on. I am afraid she must be worried by this troublesome affair ; but I trust and hope that it will at last end to your satisfaction. It is so very hard a case, that I think Mr. Sheddou, the uncle, cannot suffer you to be the victim of his nephew's dishonesty, if he has any honour or principle himself, as it was at his desire you continued him in the office. The affairs of this world don't go on at all to my satisfaction at present ; but hope follows on, and it is always the best companion upon our dreary road.

We have had beautiful skies, and brilliant suns, moons, and stars this year, but not much health to enjoy them, and the old worries of knaves and fools, which it seems to be poor Bab's fate never to be able to get rid of ; but I must say she bears it, as well as a very indifferent state of health, with great heroism. We returned to town about a fortnight since, and are established here for the winter. We were obliged to leave Tunbridge sooner than we intended, on account of the smallness of our house, and the illness of some of the servants, which made it necessary to give up some of our rooms for the use of the sick. So here you will find us if anything should bring you to town. We got your 'Melodies' last week ; and Barbara is gone mad after 'This Earth is the planet.' She begged leave to play it between each of her lessons ; and she goes singing the delights of this world all over the house, as if it was quite her opinion that it was all sunshine and gaiety ; long may she think so : but the time too surely comes that one gets behind the scenes, and the brilliant spectacle vanishes.

"There are people in town, going and coming ; but none staying, I believe, but ourselves. We both like London at this quiet time of year ; and though we have workmen repairing the house, and we can only inhabit part of it, we have made ourselves very comfortable. I got a frank for Saturday to Calne by mistake ; I recollected afterwards, that Devizes was your post town, so I was obliged to put off my letter till to-day. How is dear little Anastasia ? is she as rosy and pretty as she was when we saw her last ? Bab joins with me in everything kind to you and Bessy, and in begging for an early answer to this letter. I hope you will not be lazy, as usual ; indeed, you must not be so.

"Adieu ! and God bless you all.

"M. G.

"Rogers begs to know if you got a letter which he enclosed about a fortnight ago to Mr. Power for you."

To Miss Lefanu.

Sloperton Cottage, Devizes, Dec. 21, 1818.

"Dear Miss Lefanu,

"It was a little unlucky that I did not receive your letter in London, from which I

am but just returned, as I could then have requested you to send your manuscript up instantly, and presented it myself in Pater-noster Row. As it is, I think the surest as well as speediest way will be for you to forward it immediately by the coach, directed to Messrs. Longman, and I shall lose no time in preparing them to receive it. As they must be your ultimate judges (at least before publication), it would be, perhaps, but a waste of time to let *me* have the previous perusal of the manuscript, however gratifying and flattering such a reference to my judgment might be. In all this, however, I shall be guided entirely by your wishes, and if it be your desire that I should look over the work before it is submitted to them, you have but to forward it to me by the coach, as you did the papers relative to your uncle. But I must repeat that as the booksellers are to be your grand jury, either to find the bill or throw it out, you had perhaps better, in the first instance, send the manuscript to them, and you may depend upon my backing it with all the recommendations which my opinion of your talents, as well as my warm interest in yourself, incline me to give it. I am sorry to tell you that the interference of Burgess and the creditors has produced such a hitch in our *Sheridan* affairs as I fear will be fatal to their further progress.

"With best regards to Mr. and Mrs. L., believe me,

"Faithfully yours,
"THOMAS MOORE."

To Samuel Rogers, Esq.

"Paris, Dec. 23, 1819.

"My dear Rogers,

"There is but little use now in mentioning (though it is very true) that I began a letter to you from Rome, the first fragment of which is now before my eyes, and is as follows, 'One line from Rome is worth at least two of even yours from Venice; and it is lucky it should be so, as I have not at this moment time for much more.' There I stopped; and if you had ever travelled on the wing, as I have done, flying about from morning till night, and from sight to sight, you would know how hard it is to find time to write, and you would forgive me. Taking for granted that you *do* forgive me, I hasten to

write you now some very valueless lines indeed, as they must be chiefly about myself. I found a letter here on my arrival, from the Longmans, telling me that I must not venture to cross the water (as was my intention, for the purpose of reaching Holyrood House) till they had consulted you and some others of my friends with respect to the expediency of such a step. I have heard nothing more from them on the subject, and therefore I suppose I must make up my mind to having Mrs. Moore and the little ones over, and remaining here. This is disappointing to me in many respects, and in few more than its depriving me of all chance of seeing *you*, my dear Rogers, and of comparing notes with you on the subject of the many wonders I have witnessed since we parted. Lord John has, I suppose, told you of the precious gift Lord Byron made me at Venice—his own memoirs, written up to the time of his arrival in Italy. I have many things to tell you about him, which at this moment neither time nor inclination will let me tell; when I say 'inclination,' I mean that spirits are not equal to the effort. I have indeed seldom felt much more low and comfortless than since I arrived in Paris; and though if I had you at this moment *à quattr'occhi*, I know I should find wherewith to talk whole hours, it is with difficulty I have brought myself to write even these few lines. Would I *were* with you! I have no one here that I care one pin for, and begin to feel, for the first time, like a banished man. Therefore, pray, write to me, and tell me that you forgive my laziness, and that you think I *may* look to our meeting before very long. If it were possible to get to Holyrood House, I should infinitely prefer it.

"Lord John, in a letter I have just received from him, says you have not been well; but I trust, my dear Rogers, you are by this time quite yourself again.

"Ever yours most truly,
"THOMAS MOORE."

To Samuel Rogers, Esq.

"La Butte, July 17, 1820.

"My dear Rogers,

"As I have just been answering a letter of Sir J. Mackintosh, and thereby got my hand back into some notion of letter-writing, I shall slip in a hasty line or two to you. As

you have *never* written to me, and I have only written *once* to you, the difference of virtue between us is so small that I shall not crow over you upon the strength of it; besides, the solitary letter I *did* write was of so dreary and croaking a nature (at a time, too, when you might have expected me to return with all the sunbeams of Italy fresh about me), that I do not wonder at your having waited for some pleasanter tones to send an echo to. I afterwards got into a much happier mood, having exchanged my wretched *entresol* in Paris for a very pretty cottage in the Allée des Veuves, where I contrived to get on very comfortably indeed. Often and often did I think of communicating my bright side to you, as I had done the dark one; but I had no time for letters; scribbling of another kind came so hard upon me. The necessity of doing some jobs for Power, and my anxiety to finish the work I had promised to the Longmans altogether absorbed every instant of my time; and, having got into arrears of letter-writing with every friend I have in the world, I had not the courage to begin discharging the amount, but thought a declaration of insolvency at once to all was the only decent and honest mode to pursue. You have heard, I dare say, that the Longmans have suppressed my book, at which I am not at all sorry, for I can make a much better thing out of its materials at another time, and I have availed myself of their readiness to withhold the publication, though with very different views from those upon which they recommended it. Nothing can be more liberal, considerate, and kind than the conduct of those men to me. It is really friendship, assuming the form of business, and making itself actively useful, upon a fair debtor and creditor account of obligations.

"We are now passing the summer months at a place which *you* would delight in. It is the house (forming part of Belle-Vue) which hangs over Sévres, and faces you as you cross the bridge. The view from it of woods and palaces is superb, and the grounds (about fifty or sixty acres in pleasure-ground) include every variety one could wish. It was bought by a friend of ours, a Spaniard, with whose wife we were very intimate in England; and he has given us a beautiful little *parillon* near his house, where I pass my mornings quietly

and independently, and then join the rest at a dinner as good as one of the best artists from the Rocher de Cancale can make it. The walks about us, through the Woods of Meudon and St. Cloud, are of the true kind for study; and in short, I enjoy myself so thoroughly here, that if the sun would but go on shining this way all the year, and the flowers blooming and the nightingales singing, I should begin to care very little about the Treasury or Doctors' Commons, and sigh for nothing in England but the never-to-be-forgotten friends I left behind me there. But, then, winter *will* come, and then Paris is the devil.

"Pray write soon, my dearest Rogers, and add to my sunshine by showing that I am remembered by you as kindly as ever, in spite of my *one* letter in eight months, and your—*none*.

"Bessy sends her kindest regards. Anastasia is quite well, and is pronounced here to have a *Grecque* face, and little Tom, in spite of his teeth, flourishes.

"Remember me most kindly to Miss Rogers.

"Yours ever,

"T. MOORE."

From Lady Donegal.

"Davies Street, Jan. 4, 1823.

"I ought to have answered your letter immediately, but a thousand things prevented my doing so, for which I am very sorry. So pray pardon my apparent indifference to the subject of it, for I can assure you with truth (and I know you will believe me) that we both feel anything but indifference on this occasion, as well as upon all others in which you are any way concerned. I, however, still plead guilty to feeling strongly all the objections I have already made to the 'Angels.*' I may, perhaps, be too strict, or too prudish, and I ought perhaps to be influenced more by the opinions of others; but I am too old to change, so you must make the best of me, and allow me to go on praising or condemning as the spirit moves me. And this privilege I claim in right of a friendship of twenty years' standing. And, according to my ideas of friendship, my friend is bound to tell me when he thinks I am wrong, or likely, from want of thought, to incur the censure of

* "Loves of the Angels."

the world, or of individuals in it. So I do only as I wish to be done by. Mary does not agree with me in my objections to the poem, though she does wish with me that you had fixed on some other subject. In justice, I must acknowledge that there are some very beautiful passages in it, but this is all the praise I can agree to, and, thinking as I do, I cannot even wish to change my opinion of it.

"I cannot say how much I should be gratified to hear that you had immediately begun upon some unexceptionable subject, more suited to the powers of your mind. I once heard a very sensible man say that the present state of Greece would be a proper subject for your genius, and, that, with your classical knowledge and poetical powers, you might make a beautiful poem out of it. Why not take this into your serious consideration, and do your talents the justice they deserve, by giving them a subject worthy of them? I heartily wish some of your literary friends at Botany Bay, where many better men have gone before; for people will suppose that your mind has received a bias from them, which I know not to be the case, but others will not know that; and I should hate to hear your name mentioned in the same day with theirs. Pray let me hear soon from you, for I shall be very anxious to know that you do not feel displeased at the openness with which I have expressed myself. In the meantime, be assured of the best wishes and best regards of our fireside to your fireside.

"I have written myself blind.

"Ever most sincerely yours,

"B. D."

To Samuel Rogers, Esq.

"Friday, May 23, 1823.

"My dear Rogers,

"I have to ask a great favour of you, which is that you will take an opportunity (as soon as you can conveniently) of putting my name down to the Greek subscription for five pounds, and paying that sum for me. I would not give you this trouble, but that Power is in Ireland, and that I do not like employing the Longmans any further in this way till I have settled my account with them. As soon as I return to town, I shall pay you

with many thanks, and you will, I know, recollect that I wish the thing to be done *before* any new list of subscribers is printed.

"It was very kind of you to write to me so encouragingly about the 'Fables;' but I fear (from not seeing any announcement of a second edition) that the sale begins already to 'drag its wounded length along.' To be sure, the first edition was 3000, and (as you say sometimes) one *used* to be satisfied with such things.

"I am beginning very *seriously* to turn my attention again to Sheridan, and shall not be, this time, diverted from it by *anything*.

"I see 'Italy' quoted elsewhere. Bessy hopes you do not forget her old claim (like that of the Universities), that a copy of every work of yours should be duly deposited with her. She is still of the *dual* number.

"Ever yours, faithfully,

"THOMAS MOORE."

To Samuel Rogers, Esq.

Sloperton Cottage, Jan. 18, 1824.

"My dear Rogers,

"On my return from Ireland the latter end of last week, I found my table and drawers heaped with letters and manuscripts (among the latter a Tragedy, a Poem, and the rough copy of the Memoirs of a Rebel Chief, sent to me from America), and your precious little letter lay so modestly lurking under all this mass, that it was but the night before last I fished it up, like a pearl, from among them. Thank you, many, many times, for the encouraging things you say about my book. It certainly succeeds with the public, which ought to be a consolation to me for the heart-burning it produces in various quarters. Radicals hate me for my praise of the aristocracy, Whigs hate me for my candour to the Tories, and Tories hate me for all possible reasons. The cannonade from the Royal battery which you mention is, I suppose, only reserved, and may perhaps be dealt out to me in small shot through the 'Representative,' or kept to give *clat* to the commencement of the Lockhart dynasty. Should there be anything worth answering (which as yet there has not been, the statement in the 'Westminster,' as to the gift of the four thousand pounds, being, I am pretty sure,

false,) I must take the field in a pamphlet, like Bowles. In the mean time, during all this my private affairs go on most dishearteningly — '*en attendant l'amant périt*. You have heard of my refusal of Lord Wellesley's offer, and think, perhaps, with others (who have a different standard for a poor man from that which they go by themselves) that I *ought* to have accepted it. But if you knew all the circumstances, and heard my own view of it, you would not think so. Such a favour from the other side at this moment, coming in coincidence with the impression on some minds that I have *courted* the Tories in my book, would have left a vulnerable point in my character through life; and as character is my only property (though a damned bad property I find it,) I must only endeavour to make the best of my bargain.

"Bessy is better than I have known her some time; she and Anastasia enjoyed the Twelfth Night at Bowood without me. God bless you, my dear Rogers: it will be a good while before we meet, as I mean to work without intermission, if I can, for the next six months. You will ask—at what? and that's the question, for I have not even yet decided; but it must be at something little short of *coining*, or I'm ruined.

"Yours ever,

"T. MOORE."

From James Corry, Esq.

"Dublin, 15 Merion Square, Sunday,
Nov. 27, 1825.

"My dear Moore,

"You have returned, it seems, from the north to your own little cottage, which therefore unites again all its former claims to distinction,—

"Wit, poetry, friendship, and beauty."

"I was delighted to hear of your northern excursion, and am glad of your return. Ever since I read '*Sheridan's Life*,' I have been longing to write to you, but while you were winning applauses from every one about you, I thought it would not be fair to '*pursue the triumph*' with a dull letter, to which you could not find time to attend. It is very gratifying to the lovers of poetry to think, that the Bard of the Western Island has at last shaken hands with the Poet of the North, and that they are pleased with each other.

But your excursion has done more for you than afford to Scott an opportunity to *know* you. It has enabled the British Athens, his own '*romantic town*,' to show their respect for your talents: this is not less gratifying than *useful*, because it will hereafter assist you towards receiving '*golden opinions*' from booksellers at home. I cannot tell you how much I admire your '*Life of Sheridan*.' It is the most interesting piece of biography I ever read, and I felt a greater interest in it, from believing that you wrote many passages of it after having dipped your pen in *your own heart*. In short, my dear Moore, I suspect that often while you were *writing* about Sheridan, you were *thinking* about yourself, as thus—that '*poverty* is the best nurse of talent;' that he *married* a young and lovely creature before frequent exhibitions before the public had injured in her '*that fine gloss of feminine modesty*, for whose absence not all the talents and accomplishments of the whole sex can atone;' that '*labour* is the parent of all the lasting wonders of the world, whether poetry or pyramids;' that '*talents* in literature, unassisted by the advantages of *birth*, find it difficult to break through the well-guarded frontier' of the aristocracy. Thus (after putting all distinctions of honour and directness of character out of the question) have I amused myself in supposing similarities between you; but I have nearly omitted a most important one. I think you say somewhere that he was very fond of an *Irish stew*, and I have made your mother laugh herself to *tears* at this part of the parallel. You know she always *cries* when she is very *happy*. I wish poor Bryan's tears always flowed from the *same source*. North was very eloquent in praising your book to me the other day. We are all well here; I include your family with my own in this account. Braham and Stephens are picking our pockets—*full* houses every night. My library has been enriched lately with nine *quarto* volumes of '*Moore's Works*,' splendidly bound, most of them inlaid; they grace a shelf opposite the fire, over which your picture hangs, so that when a Tory stands with his back to the *grate*, let him turn which way he will, he is well *roasted* between all he *sees*, and *feels*, and *hears*. I intended to have inlaid your lines on the *Stratier* in one of the

blank leaves in the front of *Anacreon*, vol. 1.; but, alas! neither high nor low can I find them here, and they derive half their value from being written in *your own hand*. Will you, like a good fellow, transcribe them for me, when you are at leisure? and Mrs. Corry will join me in giving you a thousand thanks for your kindness. Did Sir Walter Scott ever mention my humble name to you? I was introduced to him by Blake, as *your friend*. I met him at Blake's house. I wrote to him a polite and humble note, addressed to Edinburgh (through *Rees*), asking him to receive from me (as '*your friend and Blake's*'), a little tooth-pick case of *Irish* black oak, enriched with a little *Irish gold*, and *Irish diamond* on the lid; the whole thing not worth *two guineas*. Were it of any value beyond its *Hibernicisms*, I should have thought I took a liberty with him; his *silence* makes *me sure of it*. Mrs. Corry unites with me in best regards to Mrs. M.

"Farewell,

"JAMES CORRY."

From Lady Donegal.

"7 Clarges Street, Jan. 24, 1826.

"I was very happy to receive your letter, melancholy as the subject of it was, but we were anxious to hear from you, and to know all we could about you, after the affliction you had suffered, and the trying scenes you had to go through with your family. Your conduct towards them is most kind, and like yourself; but I own I do regret that Lord Wellesley's offer was not accepted of, for it might have been done without your having any part in it; and you are not accountable for the actions of your mother, who might have taken it all upon herself.

"I may be wrong in thinking so, but I cannot help regretting heartily that you have thus added to your difficulties, when it might have been avoided. However, every one must give you credit for your feeling, which was independent and noble, and I sincerely wish you had an income to keep pace with your generous mind. One thing I grieve over is, that you will now write in a hurry, and not do yourself justice; but I do hope and beg you will be guarded, and even sacrifice a little for the sake of conciliating friends, for, after all,

they are necessary to one's happiness in every way in this uncertain life.

"Ever most sincerely,

"Yours, &c.,

"B. DONEGAL."

*To Dr. Bain.**

"Sloperton Cottage, Devizes, April 17, 1826.

"My dear Friend,

"I wrote to Charles Sheridan yesterday, begging him to apply to you upon a subject in which we are all pretty equally concerned; but, upon second thoughts, I feel that I ought not to have taken this *roundabout* way, but to have written to you decidedly myself. You see the '*Quarterly Review*' has fired its long-threatened cannonade, and though it is more noisy than mischievous, yet some of my friends (Lord Lansdowne among many others) think I ought to take notice of it. My intention therefore is, in the preface to the next edition, to put two or three paragraphs, as good-tempered and conciliatory as possible, disclaiming all idea of imputing a general want of generosity, in pecuniary matters, to the illustrious personage concerned in these transactions, but at the same time defending the accuracy of my own statements. It is odd enough, that the only points of importance which they affect to disapprove, is the account of the £200 sent through Vaughan, for which I had the authority of the two persons concerned in it, Vaughan and yourself. They say the sum was £500, and that it was accepted, made use of, and afterwards repaid. Now, what I want of you is (and indeed you could not render me a more signal service, to say nothing of what is due to the family and yourself), to let me put two or three lines, as follows, with your signature:—

"'My dear Sir,

"'The statement which you have made in your *Life* of my friend Mr. Sheridan, that £200 was the sum proffered to me by Mr. Vaughan, and that it was respectfully declined, is perfectly correct.

"'Yours, &c.'

"If you prefer having the words addressed to Charles Sheridan:—

"'My dear Charles,

"'The statement which Mr. Moore, &c., &c.,

* See *Memoirs*, Vol. V. p. 55.

it would do equally well, and perhaps better. I know it is far from pleasant for you, and God knows I heartily hate it myself, much as I am used to it, to have your name brought before the public in any way; yet, if honest men did not stand by each other on a pinch, this world would not be worth living in; besides, as your authority is already pledged on the face of my statement, this would be only the repetition of it in a more formal way, and would be, indeed, the only mode of settling all controversy on this point at rest for ever. You may depend upon my answer being such as will tend very much to remove any impression there may have been of my wishing to attack the King unfairly; and your assistance in the way I ask will materially assist me towards that object, as, in enabling me to show that I am correct in my statements, it will give me the power of being more candid and conciliatory in my admissions; in short, it will carry us triumphantly through. Though I had no answer to my last letter to you on my return from Ireland, I know from Charles Sheridan that it was received and *acted upon*. My best remembrances to your daughters, and believe me,

"Ever very truly yours,
"THOMAS MOORE."

To Dr. Bain.

April 18, 1826.

"My dear Sir,
"I wrote to you to Hefleton yesterday, feeling that I had taken a more roundabout way than was necessary, in applying to you through Sheridan; and being anxious to explain to you more fully than I had done to him the great importance of your testimony on this occasion. I am sorry that my letter of yesterday will be so long in reaching you, as I felt sure, in writing it, that you would not hesitate at granting the request it contains. I have just had a letter from my excellent and honourable friend Lord John Russell, who also thinks (this between ourselves) that something ought to be said in my answer to the 'Quarterly.' The three main points on which I am charged with omission and inaccuracy, are, with respect to the 4000*l.* for the seat, the liberation of Sheridan from the prison, and the 200*l.* through Vaughan. On the two former I am prepared with an answer; and *you* can ren-

der a triumphant one on the last. I hope they will forward to you my letter from Hefleton: at all events, do not answer this till you receive it.

"I do not forget my promise for summer, and trust that my stars will be propitious enough to allow me to keep it.

"Yours most truly,
"THOMAS MOORE."

To Dr. Bain.

July 8, 1826.

"My dear Friend,

"I made a most egregious blunder in writing to you the other day. According to your desire, I dispatched my letter on the Wednesday, in order that it should catch you before your departure from town on the Friday, and, as an Irish way of gaining this object, I directed the letter, in a strange fit of absence, to Hefleton. As this, however, cannot now be helped, I should not have thought it worth while troubling you with a new despatch about it, if I had not another object. You may remember, on my last visit to you, I mentioned that my friend Bowles had expressed a long-ing desire to accompany me, and that you said you would have been very glad to see him. Now he has been with me to-day, expressing the very same wish, and it has occurred to me that you would at least like to know the circumstance, in order that if it suited your arrangements, you might have an opportunity of asking him. If you have any difficulty about lodging-rooms, you know you may put me in your worst *Poet's corner*, and let Bowles have the *gite* intended for me. His address is 'Rev. W. L. Bowles, Bremlill, near Calne,' and if you *should* write and ask him, let me have a line at the same time to say so.

"Yours, in a furious hurry,
"THOMAS MOORE."

To Samuel Rogers, Esq.

"April 21, 1828.

"My dear Rogers,

"I have just heard that you are not very well. Pray let me have *one* line to satisfy me on the subject.

"I have been getting on pretty well with Byron, though not so rapidly as I expected. Biography is like dot engraving, made up of little minute points, which must all be at-

tended to, or the effect is lost. At every step some small subject of inquiry starts up which costs me half-a-dozen letters, to say nothing of being obliged to wait for the answers.

"Our Anastasia is going on as comfortably as we could expect. *How is your sister?* I had determined never to ask *you* this question again; but feeling gets the better of pique; and so there it is. Answer it.

"Ever yours faithfully,
"THOMAS MOORE."

To Philip Crampton, Esq.

"Sloperton Cottage, Derizes, July 31, 1823.

"My dear Crampton,

"I have ventured to introduce to you by letter our great gun of the press here (Barnes, the editor of 'The Times'), who is about to take a trip to the lakes of Killarney, and means to stop a day or two in Dublin on his way. The chief service you will have to render him, is to keep him out of the hands of the Catholic Association, who are in a state of deadly ire against him (and with justice) on account of his late views of our Irish Question, which I disagree with him on, *toto calo*, or rather *totis inferis*, myself. He is, however, a good fellow, as well as a devilish clever one, and has done more for the Catholic cause here than ever O'Connell could *undo*, let him try ever so hard. This I say merely as relative to England, for Dan's *Irish* career has, of late, my entire approbation. Be kind to Barnes, if he gives you the opportunity. He takes also a letter from Lord Lansdowne to his agent at Kenmare. You will be glad, I know, to hear that my little girl is going on better than we could possibly have expected. She has been sitting up for some hours every day this week past, and there seems no danger of any return of inflammation in the hip.

"God bless you, my dear Crampton. Ever affectionately yours,

"THOMAS MOORE.

"I did so lament leaving London before your reign there was over."

From Thomas Barnes, Esq.

"Thursday, Sept. 11, 1823.

"Dear Moore,

"I reached Town after my Irish trip on

Sunday last, but have not had time to write till this afternoon. I could not have the pleasure of seeing you on my return, for I was at last compelled to come to London without any delay.

"I have been delighted with my journey. it has removed from my mind a vast deal of prejudice and false impression: it has made me feel an interest for Ireland and its people which will render the support of its cause no longer a task, but a cordial service.

"I saw a great deal of the people; though, unfortunately, I was not able to avail myself of all your introductions. Mr. Corry had left Dublin; Lord Kenmare was away for Killarney; and I was too much pressed for time in passing through Kilkenny to see Major Bryan. I met Shiel in society at Dublin, and found him not only what I expected—a clever, lively companion, but what I did not expect—a very rational and candid person, even on his own exciting subject of Catholic politics. I did not see the 'Great Dan O'Connell,' but I met one of his brothers at Killarney. I don't know whether he was aware of his companion, but there certainly was no instinctive antipathy. We passed a very pleasant afternoon in a party given by Major Mahoney of Dunloe.

"I am glad to find your face turned again towards us; and think you will see no reason to turn it away. Our views and principles are, in the main, so similar, that there cannot be any permanent disagreement.

"Mrs. Barnes begs me to express her cordial hope that your daughter is better. She has, like myself, contracted a strong interest for the 'green isle' and its inhabitants.

"Yours faithfully,
"T. BARNES."

To Philip Crampton, Esq.

"March 25, 1834.

"My dear Philip,

"How the time flies! and how you and I keep never minding each other, till at last, some fine day, one or other, or both—but 'away with *melancholy*,' as the song saith, we shall have, with the blessing of God, a merry day or two together yet. Did you know that I was very near paying you a visit at the time of Lord John Russell's excursion to Ireland last autumn? He asked me to go with him, and for two or three days my wings were

ready spread for flight. I had invitations from Bessborough and Lord Ebrington, and the Lansdownes offered to bring me back; but, all at once, my heart failed, and I gave it up. *One* of my reasons for doing so *you* were a good deal concerned in, as I found I could not have devoted more than a day or two to Dublin, and that being my principal object (on account of you and poor little Nell), I thought the rest hardly worth the time and expense. However, *next* autumn, I am resolved to invade you, and this bright sudden thought is very much the cause of this sudden, but *not* bright letter, which will, however, I know, give you pleasure.

"We are all well, except that *I* am rather plagued of late with weak eyes, which to a poor 'working-day author' is rather inconvenient. We hear of *you* sometimes and of your still blooming looks, which we pray heartily for the continuance of; being ever, my dear good fellow,

"Most heartily yours,

"THOMAS MOORE.

"Meant *dually* to include Bessy also, though we never were more *one* in our lives, which is saying a good deal, this being the anniversary of our marriage—the twenty-third year!"

To Samuel Rogers Esq.

"Slopeton, Oct. 6, 1835.

"My dear Rogers,

"I should have written to you sooner after my return from Ireland, but that I thought you must have left London, and did not like to send a letter yelping at your heels. But having heard from some one that you were seen in an omnibus lately, which sounds very like the *neighbourhood*, at least, of London, I take my chance of this catching you in that not *orer*-fast conveyance. I don't know whether you have heard anything of my honours and glories in Ireland; but I assure you I thought very often of *you* when I was among my Muses at Bannow; one of which (my Chief Muse) was a remarkably pretty girl of about seventeen, and when I turned round to her, as she accompanied my triumphal car (which went at a very slow pace), and said, 'This is a long journey for you,' she answered, with a smile that would have done

your heart good, 'Oh, I only wish, sir, it was three hundred miles.' There's for you! What was Petrarch in the Capitol to that?

"But to come to prosaic matters. You have at least heard, with all the world, that while the People were crowning me at Bannow the King was pensioning me at St. James's (a concurrence of circumstances, I flatter myself, not common in history); and never, I must add, did golden shower descend upon a gentleman nearer what is called his 'last legs' than I was at the moment when this unasked-for favour lighted upon me. With a little time and a good deal of work I have now, you will be glad to hear, every prospect of surmounting my difficulties. With the Longmans I am deeply dipped—or rather, an aggregate of sums which I had in their hands, bestowed by different friends upon the children (viz. Lord John, Admiral Douglas, and Byron), stands confronted in their books by *another* aggregate, equal, I fear, in amount, of the sums which, at different times, I have been obliged to *anticipate* on my labours. All this I shall now be enabled in time to make straight, for it will be in my power to devote the greater part of the sums coming from the next two volumes of my 'History' to this very desirable object.

"So much for *one* of my creditors. I now come to my *second*—for I have, thank God, but *two*—no *other* human creature having a demand (beyond the common tradesmen's credit) upon my purse. That *other* creditor, I need not tell you, my dear kind-hearted Rogers, is yourself; and I blush, even in this matter-of-fact statement, to have connected my obligations to *you* with any in which the mere *quid pro quo* barter of this world is concerned. But I do not the less feel the difference in *sentiment* for having thus mixed them up together in sober *matter of fact*; and that fact being that I owe you, my best of good friends, two hundred pounds: it has been some little relief to my mind to write this letter to assure that, as soon as I possibly can, I will discharge that debt. This, I know, I need not have told *you*; but, as I have just said, it is a relief to my mind to give the assurance, and I have not the least doubt that you will understand and enter into all that I feel about it.

"I leave myself always so little time to

write letters, that I much doubt whether I have expressed anything here that I *meant* to express. But you understand me enough by this time (a more than thirty years' experience, isn't it?) not to translate me *wrongly*, however confused may be the text; and, trusting to this for your version of the above, I am, my dear Rogers,

"Most truly yours,
"THOMAS MOORE."

To Samuel Rogers, Esq.

"Sloperton, Jan. 6, 1836.

"My dear Rogers,

"This note will be delivered to you by a very deserving young Irish artist, who is now here on his way to London, with a portrait of my unworthy self, which he is about to have engraved immediately, and which, according to the opinion of all who have seen it, comes nearest to the sublime and lofty original of any version that has ever been made of him. It is, I believe seriously, and judging from the opinions of all my friends, a most excellent likeness; and as you are an encourager both of art and of me, I venture to introduce my young countryman to you, with the hope that you will see both him and the picture, and, if you approve of the latter, speak a good word for it among your friends. Lord Lansdowne liked it so much that he allows the print to be dedicated to him.

"I should not so patiently have forborne from inquiring about you lately, had I not received from many quarters most prosperous accounts of you.

"Yours, ever most truly,
"THOMAS MOORE.

"My friend's name is *Mulvany*."

From a *Missourian*.

"St Louis, State of Missouri, U. States,
"May 22, 1836.

"Sir,

"As you have written a book whose object (*primâ facie*) is to establish truth, and dissipate error on a subject which is considered of very high importance in Christendom, to wit, the divine origin and nature of the Roman Catholic faith, I trust you will excuse me for requesting you to reply to a question which the reading of your able and most witty work has

suggested, not only to me, but to many other of my fellow-citizens in this part of the world. The question which I would take the liberty of putting is this, whether we are to consider your work, entitled 'An Irish Gentleman in search of a Religion,' as a *serious* defence of the Roman Catholic doctrines and of their *intrinsic* divinity? or, whether we are to look upon it as a mere demonstration of the existence of the Roman Catholic faith (as it at present is taught) in the earliest apostolic age, without connecting it directly with the Creator of the universe, including in the idea 'Universe,' not only the solar, but every other system of central stars and revolving planets and satellites which since the Christian era science has revealed to Mankind?

"That you have succeeded in demonstrating its early Christian origin, is admitted by most persons who have read your book; that you have refuted the objections so often urged against the doctrines of the Trinity and Transubstantiation on the ground of their *modern* origin, is also admitted; that you have shown the innovations of Protestantism, and its total want of title to the name of primitive Christianity, is also conceded. But, while they admit all this, there are many who insist that you by no means prove, or *intend* to prove, the intrinsic divinity, as a special revelation, of Roman Catholic doctrine, or even of Christianity itself in its broadest, Protestant signification: that, on the contrary, you *Gibbonise* (excuse the neologism), and through your most solemn observations a tone of irony is discovered, which, in your supposed prototypic hand, as you know, is the most unparryable (here, again, a '*novus hospes*') weapon ever directed against the vitals of holy Mother Church.

"If this suspicion of Gibbonism be unfounded, permit me to recommend that you specifically disclaim any such insidious irony. If you are really sincere in defence of the Roman Catholic dogmata (particularly the dogma of Transubstantiation) you are bound to say so. By so doing you will the better attain the object which I am willing to hope you had in view. By omitting to do so, I verily believe that object will run the risk of being defeated. In conclusion I beg to assure you that whatever may have been your object, whether to sustain the Church of St. Peter, or to precipitate its fall, my opinion of your transcendent talents,

and the use you have made of them in aid of the land in which I ate my first potatoe, cannot be changed: and have, therefore, the honour to tender you the assurance of the esteem and respect of

"Your very obedient Servant,
"A MISSOURIAN.

"Thomas Moore, Esq."

To Samuel Rogers, Esq.

"Sloperton, July 13, 1837.

"My dear Rogers,

"On Saturday last I returned home from my very agreeable excursion; the only drawback on the pleasure of which was my being obliged to return by Havre, and so losing my promised visit to you. My voyage down the Seine to Caen (where I deposited Tom with an eminent Greek professor) was delightful; the boat, each day, being filled with gay company, having a good band of music aboard, and passing every hour through new and beautiful scenes. The weather, I need not tell you, was a long course of sunshine; and altogether it was a very pleasant and unexpected dream. Pray tell Lord Holland that his hint about Caen (which I had never before thought of) was the rudiment of all this. The Duc de Broglie, on my making inquiries of *him*, suggested also Caen; and on my coming to investigate further, I found that one of my early college friends, who was forced to leave Ireland in 'the time of the troubles,' and entered into the French service, is now (having attained the rank of General) commanding the district at Caen. The few days I passed there with this good Irishman, talking over old rebellious times, was not the least interesting part of my trip; and his good sense and military knowledge will render his society, I trust, a source of no small advantage to Tom.

"We attended the ball at the Hotel de Ville, and, on the night of the fireworks, Tom was saved, perhaps, from being among the *asphyxiés* in the Champ de Mars, by being seated on the roof of the Tuileries, looking at bouquets and fire-balloons.

"My love to the Lady of the Park; and believe me ever, my dear Rogers,

"Most truly yours,

"THOMAS MOORE."

To Thomas Longman, Jun., Esq.

"Nov. 23, 1837.

"Dear Tom,

"With respect to what you say about 'Lalla Rookh' being the 'cream of the copyrights,' perhaps it may, in a *property* sense; but I am strongly inclined to think that, in a race into future times (if *any* thing of mine could pretend to such a run), those little ponies, the 'Melodies' will beat the mare, Lalla, hollow. As to the other things being 'unproductive,' why, it is to *make* them productive that the edition is contemplated. What have 'Madoc,' 'Joan of Arc,' &c., been *producing* all this time?

"Yours, my dear Tom, very truly,

"THOMAS MOORE."

To Philip Crampton, Esq.

"Dec. 23, 1838.

"My dear Crampton,

"In my hurry yesterday I forgot to mention what was certainly *next* to Tom's case in my mind, and that was your Discourse or Lecture, which I read a few days since in one of the Irish papers, and was truly charmed with it. I take for granted, however, that that was but a sketch or abstract of what you said, and that we shall have it *in extenso*. I saw also a clever Letter, by a brother Papist of mine, in reply to some of your observations. I rather think that must have been the work of a little priest belonging to Marlborough Street, who wrote a very good article about Galileo (much in the same spirit) in the 'Dublin Review.'

"What I marvel at in *you*, Master Philip, is your finding time for such lucubrations. Go on and prosper, my fine fellow; you have my hearty good wishes and admiration in *all* lines.

"Yours affectionately,

"T. MOORE."

To Samuel Rogers, Esq.

"Sloperton, April 13, 1839. •

"My dear Rogers,

"Only think, two such wonders as that *you* should have taken the initiative in writing to me, and that *I* should have been so long in answering you. It was not, I need hardly tell you, from want of thankfulness for the pleasure your note gave me; but I have been busy beyond even my usual stress of business, and at three or four different tasks, too driving four-

in-hand daily ; so that they all, I think, run a fair chance of being bungled. I have also had a more than usual pressure of correspondence, and lately on no very agreeable subject—the illness of our boy, Tom, who has been obliged, by rather a severe nervous attack, to get leave of absence from his regiment ; while the other little fellow (as I believe you know) has also determined upon being a soldier,—an Indian one,—and is now preparing hard and fast for Addiscombe, Hobhouse having very kindly given him a cadetship.

“ I did not expect you would have seen my late ‘Epistle,’ the channel through which it appeared lying so much out of your way, your ‘solar track.’ Did you at all remember the circumstance in which it originated ? I was your saying to me, the last time you were at Sloperton, on seeing the prints we have hung round our dining-room, ‘Why, you have all your *patrons* here!’ The twelve first lines were written the day after that visit and never thought of again till very lately, when I added the remainder.

“ Your friend Bessy, who ‘does all things but *forget*,’ sends her warmest regards and remembrances, along with mine. We trace you now and then among the shining dinner-names (in our *after-dinner* lucubrations), and always wish you a long continuance of such gay doings.

“ Best regards to your sister ; and believe me,

“ Ever most truly yours,

“ THOMAS MOORE.”

To Thomas Longman, Jun., Esq.

“ October 8, 1839.

“ Dear Tom,

“ I have received intelligence this morning of a most unexpected turn of good luck from your namesake Tom. By a rapid succession of circumstances he has arrived at his point of *purchase* for a Lieutenancy—an event many wait long years for. But this demands an *instant* outlay, and the sum of 250*l.* must be placed *without delay* in the hands of Messrs. Cox and Greenwood. Though I have little doubt you would advance me this sum on the edition or the fourth volume of the ‘History,’ I have, on consideration, preferred the plan of using Russell’s money for it, and making all straight to him when convenient. You will therefore have the goodness, *in the course of to-*

morrow (as delay might risk the loss of this most fortunate *turn-up*), to deposit the above mentioned sum in the hands of Cox and Greenwood, specifying to them for what purpose it is so deposited.

“ Yours in great haste (having returned from a visit to a neighbour, but *just* in time to catch the Post),

“ THOMAS MOORE.

“ I think the sum is 250*l.*—but I have annexed the scrap from Tom’s scrawl for you. I was sending his note by the parcel, but fearing you might delay in opening *that*, despatch it by post.”

To Thomas Longman, Jun., Esq.

“ Bowood, Nov. 7, 1839.

“ Dear Tom,

“ I sent you off from this last night Jones’s drawing from the Dismal Swamp, which (as being very precious to Mrs. Moore) you will take good care of for her. I think you would have been pleased to see my noble host, when I told him that I had advised your calling in the alliance of Jones in our edition. He said instantly, and Lady L. joined most cordially in the opinion, that we *could not* have selected any one *so* fit for the task. This I rejoiced at, for my own sake as well as Jones’s, having taken upon myself (ignoramus as I am in art) the responsibility of the selection.

“ I have set some friends of mine here on the hunt for good subjects from ‘*Lalla Rookh*.’ As to the ‘*Melodies*,’ I have already mentioned to you, I think, all that struck *me* as capable of being illustrated.

“ I shall send you by the next packet our third volume corrected.

“ Yours ever,

“ T. MOORE.”

To Thomas Longman, Jun., Esq.

“ Sloperton, Dec. 23, 1839.

“ Dear Tom,

“ I feel really and truly obliged to my friends Co. for their prompt and kind compliance with my request. I recollect an old woman in Dublin, Mrs. Mackavino (how *such* a Mac got there, I don’t know) ; but she was a pensioner of my mother’s, together with her daughter ; and the usual form of their petition used to be ‘a couple of shillings for a couple of grateful hearts.’

Now a couple of hundreds deserves a proportionate amount of gratitude, and I hereby remit you the same.

"Yours ever truly,
"THOMAS MOORE."

To Thomas Longman, Jun., Esq.

"Sloperton, April 18, 1840.

"Dear Tom,

"I send you the enclosed *only*, because it will be necessary for me to have a revise of it, which will not, I trust, be the case with what follows. Prose always gives me a hundred times as much trouble in correcting as poetry does. Besides, the printer, you will see, has made a mistake about my 'Greek Ode.'

"We have had a line from Russell by the pilot, and he was then only *giddy*—not yet sick. Mrs. Moore is still very depressed in spirits, and it will be some time, I fear, before she gets over her loss.

"Pray say to your lady how very much we felt her kind service and kind note.

"Yours very truly,
"T. MOORE.

"In looking over some old diaries and memorandums, I find that, however of late years I may have seen reason to grumble a little with Co. and Co., it was in former years all sunshine between us. Indeed, I will venture to say, that there are few tributes from authors to publishers on record more honourable (or, I will fairly say, more deserved) than those that will be found among my papers, relative to the transactions for many years between myself and my friends of the Row."

To Samuel Rogers, Esq.

"19 Rue Basse, à Passy, près Paris,

"July 16, 1842.*

"My dear Rogers,

"I find that, though you do not write to me, you are still thoughtful as usual about everything that may tend to either my profit or reputation, and I think it must be with a view to gratifying me on the latter score that you recommended the application from 'The Times' that Brougham has just forwarded to me. It does indeed flatter me very much to

* This letter is dated by Mr. Moore 1842, but obviously by mistake for 1822, where it would have been placed had the error been discovered in time.

have it thought that I could wield such a powerful political engine as 'The Times' with either that strength or promptitude which such a task requires, and it flatters me the more from my being conscious that I do not deserve it. Putting my ability, however, out of the question, it is impossible that I should now undertake such an office; for, in the first place, I cannot come to England, and, in the next, if I could, there are so many tasks before me (from the long spell of idleness I have indulged in), that every minute of my time will hardly be sufficient to accomplish them. So, pray take some means of letting Mr. Barnes know that, with every acknowledgment of the honour which he has done me by the application, I feel myself obliged to decline his proposal for the present. I write in haste and by the common post, because I have understood that an immediate answer was necessary, and I would not have troubled you, my dear Rogers, with this letter, had not Brougham desired me to make you the medium of my reply.

"I am afraid there is no chance of our meeting here very soon, for you must have had a sufficient dose of the Continent for some time; but about the beginning of winter, if the Fates and the Yankees are propitious, we may stand a chance of shaking hands with each other in St. James's Place.

"Ever yours,

"THOMAS MOORE."

*To Kirkman D. Hodgson, Esq.**

"Sloperton, March 30, 1845.

"My dear Sir,

"I could much better *tell* you than I can *write* to you, the very warm and grateful acknowledgments I feel, not so much for the *matter* (though to a poor poet fifty pounds is no trifling matter), as for the *manner* of the kind service which you have been enabled to render me. It will give you pleasure, too, I think, to hear that, welcome as the restored note is to myself, it is fifty-fold more welcome in another and better quarter; as I had been lucky enough to be able to conceal the loss from Mrs. Moore, so that it came to her as a gift fresh from the skies.

* This letter alludes to a Bank of England note for 50*l.* which had been lost by Mr. Moore in 1840. On the security of Mr. Kirkman Hodgson and Mr. Longman, the Bank gave Mr. Moore another note for 50*l.* The lost note was never presented for payment.

"Trusting that our friend Longman may, sometime or other, give me an opportunity of thanking you in person,

"I am, dear Sir,

"Yours very truly,

"THOMAS MOORE."

To Samuel Rogers, Esq.

"Sloperston, June 23, 1847.

My dear Rogers,

"When, when are we again to meet? I was in hopes that those Irish friends of mine who, as you may remember, gave me lodging under their roof these two last summers, in Albemarle Street, would again have been at their post this summer, and again made me their guest. But the state of Ireland compels them to stand to their post; and this is to me a sad disappointment, for I had set my heart, my dear old friend, on having a few more breakfasts with you (to say nothing of dinners) before 'time and the hour has quite run out our day.'

"Yours, my very dear friend, most truly,

"THOMAS MOORE."

"I am sinking here into a mere vegetable."

To Samuel Rogers, Esq.

"Sloperston, June 27, 1847.

"My dear Rogers,

"I show how welcome was your summons by the readiness with which I respond to it. Already Bessy is preparing all for my flight, and as I have some little businesses to despatch in Town, I shall be able to get through them all before you return.

"Yours ever most truly,

"THOMAS MOORE."

To Samuel Rogers, Esq.

"July 10, 1847.

"My dear Rogers,

"I am but just settling down into rural quiet after the week of gay doings with which you so kindly greeted me. Long, long, my dear friend, may you be able to keep up this spirit not only in your own buoyant heart, but (as I found while with you) in the hearts of all those whom you draw within your chosen circle.

"In this instance, too, I have brought home with me a double stock of pleasure, as your friend Bessy has heard the whole proceedings from me, and in my narrative enjoyed a great part of my pleasure.

"THOMAS MOORE."

POSTSCRIPT.

BEFORE finally closing these volumes, I propose to add some remarks on the publication of Moore's Diary, and the life of which it gives an image.

The literary works of which Mr. Moore was the author had yielded him considerable sums for copyright—not less in the whole, he says, in the ninth volume of his Diary, than 20,000*l.* But these sums had all been exhausted by his yearly outgoings. He had a pension from the Crown of 300*l.* a-year, but this pension ceased with his death. As a provision for his widow, he left only his Diary and Letters,—commending them to my care. I applied immediately to Mr. Longman, his publisher, who informed

me that he was prepared to give 3000*l.* for the copyright. I found that for this sum Mrs. Moore could secure an annuity for the remainder of her life not less than the income upon which she and her husband had lived frugally and quietly for the last years of his life; I therefore undertook the task, reserving to myself the power of expunging any passages I might think calculated to wound individuals, or offend the public taste.

It would not be worth while to notice in detail the critical assaults on the character of Moore. That character stands portrayed in his own letters, and his own Diary; I have transferred the impression to printed volumes.

and have placed on record, in his own words, his defects as well as his good qualities. I have not pretended to be his biographer, but have left the world to form their own judgment without extenuation, not from want of regard to my friend, but from greater regard to truth. Those biographers who exalt every merit of their hero, and defend all his actions, either deceive themselves or wish to impose upon the world. That which is instructive in itself, is the study of men as they were, whether heroes, or statesman, or poets, when they have been swept away by the storm, or have fallen in natural decay, and are scattered,

"On va la feuille de rose,
Et la feuille de laurier."

It is a pleasant thing to reflect that the men of our age and of our nation, whose characters have been unfolded to the world by the publication of their letters and their lives, have been proved generally to be men of honest hearts and pure intentions. A century has made a great change for the better.

If we compare Wellington to Marlborough, Romilly and Horner to Bolingbroke and Pulteney, Southey and Moore to Pope and Swift, we shall find that the standard of moral worth, though still far too low, has been vastly raised in the period which has elapsed since the commencement of the eighteenth century.

Moore was imbued throughout his life with an attachment to the principles of liberty; and he naturally adopted the principles of that party which contended for religious liberty and political reform. His taste for educated and refined society led him into the company of the aristocratic classes in London. Among these he was understood, appreciated, and admired. The more eminent of all political parties were charmed by his poetry, struck with his wit, and attached by the playful negligence of his conversation. A man who was courted and esteemed by Lord Lansdowne, Mr. Canning, Sir Robert Peel, Mr. Rogers,

Mr. Sydney Smith, Sir Walter Scott, and Lord Byron, must have had social as well as literary merits of no common order. It was part of his nature to prize the tributes he received from such men, but likewise to doubt whether he was worthy of so much admiration. Hence his frequent recurrence in his Diary to little proofs of kindness and attention from those he himself admired for their genius, or esteemed for their integrity.

The course of politics led him into the composition of political squibs of various merit. The "vision in the Court of Chancery," the "Slave," the "Breadfruit Tree," and many more, are replete with sense and feeling, as well as wit. Others, intended to satirise George the Fourth, when Prince Regent, are neither pure in point of taste, nor laughable in point of humour; while they have too much of personal hostility for this kind of composition.

It is singular that Mr. Moore should have been one of the gloomy prophets who predicted revolution and calamity as the consequences of the Reform Act. Lord Grey, with a truer knowledge of the English people, was of opinion that the measure to be safe, must be large; and those who acted with him and under him, framed the Reform Bill in that spirit.

There is, perhaps, in men of letters a tendency to be dissatisfied with the political system under which they live. Sir James Mackintosh used to observe that the greatest authors of Athens were evidently averse to the rule of the democracy. In France, before the Revolution, the most brilliant writers were as evidently hostile to the absolute monarchy under which they lived. In our own time Southey and Coleridge began with democracy, Scott as a Jacobite, Moore as a disaffected Irish Catholic. The freedom of literary pursuits leads men to question the excellence of the ruling power; and thus despotism and democracy alike find enemies among the most highly gifted of those who live under their

sway. Had reform never been triumphant, Moore would, in all probability have remained a warm Reformer.

Moore's domestic life gave scope to the best parts of his character. His beautiful wife, faultless in conduct, a fond mother, a lively companion, devoted in her attachment, always ready—perhaps too ready, to sacrifice her own domestic enjoyments that he might be admired and known, was a treasure of inestimable value to his happiness. I have said that perhaps she was too ready to sacrifice herself, because it would have been better for Mr. Moore if he had not yielded so much to the attractions of society, however dazzling and however tempting. Yet those who imagine that he passed the greater part of his time in London are greatly in error. The London days are minutely recorded; the Sloperton months are passed over in a few lines. Except when he went to Bowood, or some other house in the neighbourhood, the words "read and wrote," comprise the events of week after week of literary labour and domestic affection.

Those days of intellectual society and patient labour have alike passed away. The breakfasts with Rogers, the dinners at Hol-

land House, the evenings when beautiful women and grave judges listened in rapture to his song, have passed away. The days when a canto of "Childe Harold," the "Excursion" of Wordsworth, the "Curse of Kehama" of Southey, and the "Lalla Rookh" of Moore, burst in rapid succession upon the world, are gone. But the world will not forget that brilliant period; and while poetry has charms for mankind, the "Melodies" of Moore will survive.

His last days were peaceful and happy; his domestic sorrows, his literary triumphs, seem to have faded away alike into a calm repose. He retained to his last moments a pious submission to God*, and a grateful sense of the kindness of her whose tender office it was to watch over his decline. Those who have enjoyed the brilliancy of his wit, and heard the enchantments of his song, will never forget the charms of his society. The world, so long as it can be moved by sympathy, and exalted by fancy, will not willingly let die the tender strains, and the patriotic fires, of a true poet.

J. R.

April, 1856.

* Mrs. Moore, as I have before mentioned, has recorded in her memory his earnest exhortation:—"Lean upon God, Bessy; lean upon God."

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